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THE GUARDIAN

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Nixon startles world with Peking visit

From RICHARD SCOTT: Washington, July 16

President Nixon has stunned the world by announcing his acceptance of an invitation from the Chinese Prime Minister to visit Peking before May. The implications are likely to give a more violent shake to the international kaleidoscope than any event since the rupture of Sino-Soviet relations or the breaking out of the Soviet orbit by Yugoslavia.

The establishment of Sino-American relations and Peking's occupancy of China's seat, which must almost certainly now follow, will radically affect the whole intricate pattern of international relationships and require a rethinking of many basic problems.

It also seems to open the way to the adoption of the only possible lasting solution Vietnam—neutralisation. Rarely before in history can the mere announcement of an intended visit have opened up such wide hopes for a more secure and sensible world.

Malta trip on again

By DAVID FAIRHALL, Defence Correspondent

The Defence Minister, Lord Carrington, is to visit Malta again. He will fly out on Monday morning with his wife, Lady Carrington, to begin negotiations for the 1964 defence financial agreement with the new Maltese Prime Minister, Mr. Dom Mintoff.

Wednesday's little diplomatic drama, when Lord Carrington handed a message saying he would not be officially invited to Malta just as he was leaving an RAF Comet to go, has been resolved by an announcement on both sides.

It seems that Mr. Mintoff was told that he would be drawn into a wide-ranging discussion of principles when he was invited to do so.

Lord Carrington and the Prime Minister may not find it easy to strike a bargain. The Government has now announced that, although the Prime Minister cannot agree to new terms without consulting his Cabinet colleagues, the authority to conduct negotiations—and is to be used to announce last night that Mr. Mintoff has now indicated he would welcome Lord Carrington.

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DOUBLE EXPOSURE: members of the American Bar Association visiting an exhibition of historic documents at the Patent Office in London yesterday. (Reports page 5 and back page.) Picture by Peter Johns

Police caution may go

THE possibility of an end of the police system of cautioning suspects and other changes in the rules of evidence were foreshadowed yesterday when the Lord Chief Justice addressed the American Bar Association's convention in London. (Report, back page)

M-way murder

POLICE last night sealed off sections of the M4 motorway after the body of a girl aged about 18 was found at the bottom of an embankment near Slough. The body had severe head wounds. Detectives believed the girl may have been dumped from a car after hitching a lift.

Car ferry fire

FIRE broke out last night aboard the 8,221-ton Danish car ferry England on her way from Esbjerg to Harwich. The ship, carrying 240 passengers, was reported on fire 40 miles off the Danish coast. Helicopters from several Danish air bases went to her help.

Ground shut

FOOTBALL: The FA has ordered Manchester United to close their ground for two weeks next month. This follows an alleged knife-throwing incident at the ground last season. CRICKET: England have brought back Snow for the First Test against India. A new cap in the Test 12 is John Jameson, the Warwickshire batsman. (Reports, page 16 and 17)

Radio head

THE NEW controller of BBC Radio 3 is Mr. Stephen Hearst, 51, former head of television arts features. He succeeds Mr. Howard Newby, who has been promoted to programme director. (Miscellany, page 11)

Barber may give £200M boost to economy in mini-Budget

By JOHN PALMER

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to inject between £100 millions and £200 millions of demand into the economy when he announces cuts in purchase tax and easier credit terms in his "mini-Budget" speech on Monday.

Mr Barber is also expected to make a major plea for restraint in wage claims by trade unions over the next 12 months. The Chancellor will make a televised ministerial broadcast on Monday night.

Hopes are high in Whitehall that his reflationary package and the decision by the Confederation of British Industry to ask 200 member firms to limit price rises to 5 per cent from the end of July will clear the way for agreement with the TUC on a voluntary price and incomes policy. Contrary to some reports, there is evidence that the CBI announcement came as no great surprise to Treasury Ministers.

Discussions between the Government, the CBI, and the general secretary of the TUC, Mr. Vic Feather, have been held both privately and at meetings of the National Economic Development Council in recent weeks about a possible basis for an agreed policy covering prices, incomes, and economic growth. But trade union leaders were quick to point out yesterday that they would need time to consider the implications of both the CBI initiative and the Government economic measures.

The Chancellor and Mr. Feather had informal talks at the Treasury yesterday at the request of Mr. Barber. Mr. Feather called for measures to ensure a 5 per cent growth in the economy.

Lord Cooper, chairman of the TUC's General and Municipal Workers' Union, said later that he believed the Government

should cut purchase tax and relax hire purchase controls "as a step in the right direction." He described the CBI statement on prices as "a constructive response to the policy the TUC had been advocating for some time."

"The CBI statement shows possibilities," was as far as Mr. Alan Fisher, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees would go. He added: "There is no mention of profits and dividends—essential if the unions are to cooperate in any incomes policy, which I support if jointly agreed by the TUC, the CBI, and Government."

Ministers and leaders of industry will be anxious to point out that they have now gone a long way to meet the TUC case for reflation. However it is recognised that Mr. Feather's task in selling the idea of a voluntary incomes policy to his TUC colleagues and to the unions will be a delicate one.

Although the CBI statement was welcomed by many union leaders yesterday most insisted it was only the basis for further discussions. Left wing trade unionists are also likely to be unhappy about any straight trade-off between wages and price restraint.

If Mr. Barber succeeds in getting some growth into the economy then productivity is likely to accelerate quickly. It is pointed out that a 5 per cent price increase on top of substantial productivity gains is not much of a sacrifice for business.

There are also suspicions that the CBI has chosen this moment to take a price restraint initiative because in the past six months price increases have overtaken increases in take-home pay.

Union leaders are bound to point out to the Government that voluntary price restraint by 200 companies, though well

come, will not have a decisive impact on the cost of living.

They will refer to the proposed rent increases referred to in the Government White Paper on housing finance this week, as well as increases in welfare charges, school meals and milk announced recently.

Mr Barber is likely to be less worried about these criticisms than the charge from the Labour Front Bench that he has abandoned his entire economic strategy announced in the April Budget. There are signs of deep divisions within the Treasury on the advisability of reflation. Some officials feel that the economy is recovering, if more slowly than expected, and more reflation at this stage may only exacerbate inflation and produce a balance of payments troubles.

The Chancellor was not easily convinced on the need to stimulate demand through tax cuts and easier credit. But he has been alarmed at the cumulative evidence of stagnating production and the precipitate fall in industrial investment. He will spend the weekend working on the details of his statement. In order to have more time to consult colleagues, Mr. Barber cancelled a dinner engagement in Sheffield last night.

Food prices dispute, page 5; CBI's new role, page 12

Snowdonia mines search to reopen

By JOHN ARDILL

The Government has decided to allow Rio Tinto Zinc to restart mineral prospecting in the Mawddach estuary and the Coedy-Brenin areas of Snowdonia. The permission, announced yesterday by Mr. Thomas, Secretary for Wales, is limited to one year and subject to restrictions on the number of drilling rigs and times of working.

The Secretary of State's letter to Rio Tinto Finance and Exploration makes it abundantly clear that the decision carries no assurance that mining will be allowed, adding: "It is of course entirely within your own discretion whether you proceed with the exploratory proposals in the absence of such an assurance."

The company said yesterday that it was studying the letter and would make a statement next week.

The decision was strongly criticised by Mr. Simon Meade, Secretary of the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales, who said that it threatened the integrity of all national parks. Lieutenant-Colonel Gerald Haythornthwaite, chairman of

the Standing Committee on National Parks, said the decision left him "extremely apprehensive."

Rio Tinto are believed to have only a couple of months' work to do to complete their explorations which were carried out during the 18 months before the company applied for planning permission in 1970.

The company suggested at the hearing that permission was not legally required.

The Secretary of State has ruled that planning permission is required but he has decided not to issue a formal decision on the point "in the absence of an application for a determination."

Permission to drill was recommended by Mr. C. Hilton, a Ministry inspector who heard the planning appeal last December, and who was supported by his assessors at the inquiry, Sir Andrew Bryan and Dr. E. H. Frances.

Mr. Hilton says in his report that the "outstandingly beautiful" stretch of country in which the sites are located "must rank among the finest in this country or elsewhere."

Nevertheless, he adds: "The equipment used in the exploration drilling proposed would be puny when viewed in or against this large-scale landscape as a whole and could have but a minimal effect upon it."

In the estuary, the rigs would be seen from a limited number of points on roads and footpaths at water level, and from high ground would be inconspicuous they would pass unnoticed unless deliberately looked for.

In Coedy-Brenin, he says, the rigs would be even less obtrusive. The permission is given on condition that drilling schemes will be agreed with the local planning authority, that the sites are reinstated, and that there is no drilling between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays, and none at all on Sundays. In the estuary, only two drills may be used at once, and only 12 boreholes made. In Coedy-Brenin, only four drills may be used at one time.

Mr. B. Williams-Jones, clerk to Dolgellau district council, said he was delighted with the decision and looked forward to seeing the results of the survey. If the Government eventually refused to allow mining, the council would look for compensation for the loss of investment in the area, he added.

The Welsh Liberal Party said that tourism should not be overlooked in the interests of mineral development, and called for a full debate on the conflict between the need for mineral resources and the presence of a major natural asset in the form of the countryside.

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Opposition withdraws from Stormont

By SIMON HOGGART

six members of the all Democratic and Labour announced yesterday they had withdrawn from Northern Ireland Parliament, and planned to set up an alternative assembly.

MPs have the support of at least five other members he Ulster Opposition, and is likely that when Stormont opens in October, it will be only one opposition MP.

The MPs' action, which was announced yesterday by SDLP MP Gerry Fitt, follows the British Government's decision to set up a public inquiry into the deaths of two men shot by British soldiers while the army was clearing a road in Londonderry last week.

Local people have said that they were not at a press conference Mr. Fitt held after the action of the MPs to bring home to the world the reality of the situation at Stormont, where Parliament always been the voice of unionism. "The deaths in Londonderry were a tragedy, but it is not the responsibility of the British Government to investigate them," he said.

public representatives, we were unable to obtain action on an issue such as this, what role is there for us in the present parliamentary system?

"If British troops had shot unarmed civilians dead in the streets of Birmingham, what would have been the reaction of the British public? Would there have been an inquiry?"

He said that the MPs had had the choice of continuing to give credibility to a system which was basically unstable, or of bringing home to those in authority the need for strong political action to solve the community's problems.

He said that Opposition MPs had "increasingly suspicious" about the role of the army, and asked whether it was the result of deliberate policy or sheer carelessness by the British Government. The army's role appeared to have changed from being an impartial peacekeeper, to one of shoring up a particular Prime Minister.

The party did not give details of its plans for an alternative assembly to Stormont, since it has not yet held consultations with other Opposition MPs who have announced their support for the move. But the SDLP

said that the assembly would be the voice of non-Unionists and would not have any tint of sectarianism.

The six SDLP members will not resign their seats and will continue to draw their Parliamentary salaries. This, for the time being, avoids the threat of a mini-election which could have posed serious security problems.

Stormont is now in recess, but there may be some background consultations to see whether a compromise solution can be reached.

Whitehall received the news of the Stormont Opposition withdrawal by saying that it was purely a matter for two parties within a democratic system of government.

Officials were anxious not to react publicly to the news, as they realised that any Whitehall pronouncement could make the situation worse.

But one thing is certain: the British Government will not accede to the Stormont Opposition's request to hold an inquiry into the deaths of the two Londonderry men last week.

Mr. David Bleakley, Minister of Community Relations in Northern Ireland, said yesterday that the IRA may have been behind the SDLP's boycott. "There is no doubt the IRA have said they intend to exert a great deal of pressure on the community," he said.

The provisional wing of the IRA claimed responsibility yesterday for the raid on a new General Victoria Hospital in Belfast when an armed gang carried away a comrade who was shot by the army three days ago. They bound and gagged a night porter and clubbed one of two armed policemen who were guarding Gerard Fitzgerald, aged 19, of Ballymurphy Drive.

Two men gagged the porter while a third gunman arrived. Another man posing as a doctor went to ward 10 with a sub-machine-gun under his white coat and a mask covering his face. He approached two plain clothes policemen who were guarding Fitzgerald and clubbed one of them. He kept the other policeman covered while the three others in white coats joined him. One gunman carried Fitzgerald to a waiting car.

A hospital spokesman said

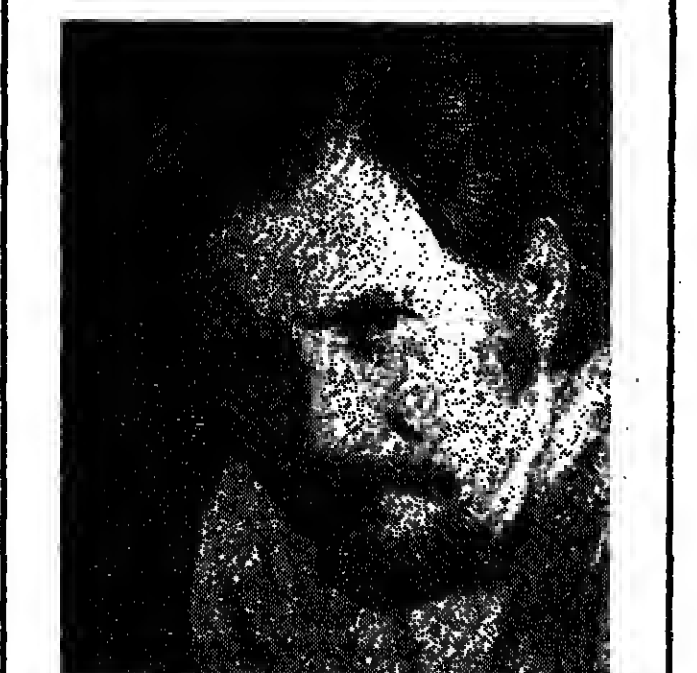
later that Fitzgerald had a severe gunshot wound which required continued medical care to prevent serious complications. Police have stated that at least seven men were in the gang which invaded the hospital.

In Londonderry yesterday incendiary devices were found in a shop. No damage was done. Stones were thrown at army and police vehicles in Durbam Street when several hundred youths gathered near Divas Plaza in the hope of seeing a fist fight between youths and soldiers.

The Chief of Staff of the "official" IRA, Mr. Cathal Goulding, was yesterday served with two summonses to appear in court at Rathfrilandham, Dublin, on July 26. One alleges that he incited people at St. Finbarr's cemetery, Cork, to commit malicious damage on July 8.

The second alleges that on the same date he incited people to commit indictable crimes under the Explosive Substances Act, the Offences Against Persons Act, and the Firearms Act.

Leader comment, page 10



ROY DOTRICE

will be talking to you on BBC-1 Television (6-55 p.m. on Sunday)

about Chalfont Centre where 500 people with epilepsy either live in permanent care or are trained for return to normal life. Please look and listen, and help us with whatever you feel you can spare. Donations, which will be gratefully acknowledged, should be sent to: —

ROY DOTRICE, The Chalfont Centre, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EPILEPTICS (Patron: Her Majesty The Queen)

Labour urged to support EEC entry

By HELLA PICK

One the eve of the Labour Party conference, Dr Sico Manholt, one of the EEC commissioners, came to London yesterday to make a powerful appeal to the British Labour movement to support Common Market membership. Dr Manholt is one of the EEC's best-known commissioners, since he has to look after the EEC's common agricultural policy and has been crusading for its reform and for greater rationalisation of European agriculture.

But he came to London not in his capacity as a Community official but as a Dutch Socialist. His purpose was to remind the Labour Party that socialism is an international movement and to ask whether anyone read Dr Manholt in the present times it can be promoted through national action alone. "We Socialists in Europe need the British Labour movement," he said.

Appalled
Dr Manholt was voicing what leading Socialists in Europe have been saying for some time. Most of them are appalled by the divisions in the Labour Party and the negative attitude of so many British trade unions. Earlier this week in Bonn, the West German Chancellor, Herr Brandt, stressed the benefits which the EEC had brought to German workers and trade unionists, said that the hardcore of Italian unemployment had been crumbling, and concluded that the initiative of the social democratic parties of an enlarged Community will specifically help to make it easily the most progressive large area in the world.

Similar views have been expressed by Socialist leaders in Italy and France. They feel that the European Community must not, and need not, become a hostage to capitalism. But this means that the Socialist parties of Europe must work together, and that the trade unions must work on a European basis to put a counterweight to big business.

Bill for cultural autonomy

From HENRI SCHOUPE: Brussels, July 16

The Belgian Parliament has opened the way to a "regionalisation" of the State, with autonomous powers for Dutch-speaking Flanders and the French-speaking South in cultural and economic affairs.

In a last-minute move after an all-night session of the Chamber of Representatives, the Liberal Opposition today approved a Bill for cultural autonomy of the two national communities while the Chamber, in an earlier vote, passed a Bill for local government reform which defines the territory of bilingual Brussels.

Since the coalition Cabinet of Social Christians and Socialists lacks the two-thirds parliamentary majority required for constitutional reform, the outcome was in the hands of the Opposition parties, with the Liberals in front. For several days the fate of the Government hung in the balance and yesterday it looked as if Premier Gaston Eyskens would have to offer his resignation to a strongly centralised State, in spite of its two languages and cultures, will be reorganised along semi-federal lines.

For the first time in the country's history the basic law recognises and defines a Flemish region and a Walloon region, with bilingual Brussels in the middle.

According to the Autonomy Bill, the Parliamentarians of either language group would sit as cultural councils for their region. The compromise reached today gives certain guarantees to the political minorities while the two Ministers of Cultural Affairs would remain answerable to a whole National Parliament as a whole for their budget decisions.

The Minister for Internal Affairs, Herr Genscher, should have plenty to talk about when he visited the Minister for the Environment, Mr Peter Walker, in London this week to exchange information about combating pollution. There has just been an alarming report here about the situation in Lower Saxony, a predominantly agricultural land whose splendid scenery attracts millions of tourists every year. According to the report the milk produced in one part of the state, near the North Sea coast, was only drinkable when heavily mixed with milk from another area because the lead content of the vegetation was 120 times more than normal. Eighty per cent of the state's nature reserves were seriously threatened by pollution of one kind or another, and much of the landscape had been disfigured by skyscraper hotels, apartments, houses, weekend bungalows, and camping sites.

Many people seem to think that the German love of orderliness and cleanliness would ensure there was no great pollution problem here. In a BBC report about Hitler the other day somebody asked "Why is it that Britain has been here for years. Woodland perimeters are reeking of litter, streams whose water once tasted like champagne are blocked with filth, old cars are dumped by the roadside and discarded furniture is often deposited in the countryside."

One of the most littered places in Europe is undoubtedly the Drackenfels, the rocky heights above Koenigs-winter which the tourist office claims is the world's most frequently climbed mountain. In summer you can walk there through the ice-cream wrappers and the cigarette packets.

IT WAS no easy task to elect a new rector of Munich University. At the first attempt, on June 30, dissenting students swarmed into the great hall and simply stopped the election. They objected to the candidate, Professor Nikolaus Lobkowicz, who was standing unopposed, on the grounds that he is

NORMAN CROSSLAND

Letter from Bonn

not sufficiently progressive in his attitude towards student codetermination at the university. It was decided that the second attempt should be held outside the university, and that the time and place of the election should be chosen by the police.

They chose the former residence of the Wittelsbachs, and on the day of the election, July 6, a thousand police were on duty. They completely sealed off the north side of the building, and some of the entrances were flanked by a hundred policemen. But they had forgotten to guard the emergency doors on the east side of the residence. An accomplice opened the doors from the inside, and in came the Spartacists, the Maoists, and the anarchists. Again the election was abandoned.

The third attempt, again in the Residence took place on Monday, and this time 1,200 police were on duty — guarding all entrances. But the students caused no trouble. They decided at a teach-in that their point had been made. Professor Lobkowicz was duly elected.

THE DECISION to make French a first foreign language in German schools, conveniently announced during the visit of President Pompidou to Bonn, had been held up by the opposition of Hamburg and West Berlin. It is the Länder or states of which these are two, which have responsibility for education, and try as he might, Willy Brandt could not meet Genscher Pompidou's wishes without their consent. Hamburg, the most British of German cities, saw no point in upgrading French, and West Berlin, which has a huge, constantly changing foreign population, uses English as its international language. Eventually, the

Chancellor persuaded them that to discriminate against French was hardly in the spirit of the French-German friendship treaty. After all, German is a first foreign language in French schools.

The French are not trying to supplant English with their language, but merely to have it placed on a same footing, at least in the neighbouring country of Germany. It is estimated that about 700,000 children in each country are learning each other's language. This figure should increase, although there are rumblings from various parts of the country that the Laender decision is not going to be easy to put into practice because of a shortage of French teachers and facilities.

English has certainly made relentless inroads into the German language. No politician here worth his salt would think of making a speech without larding it with English tags. Take the floating mark, for instance, the great bone of contention between Paris and Bonn. Neither Karl Schiller nor Giscard d'Estaing could get around that one.

THE national theatre in Weimar (East Germany), where in July 191, the Constitution of the new German Republic was adopted by the National Assembly, is to undergo an extensive restoration at a cost of nearly £2 millions. It was heavily damaged by bombing in February 1945, but quickly rebuilt in difficult circumstances after the war and reopened with a performance of Faust in 1948. The materials used in the rebuilding have proved to be unsatisfactory. The theatre's most glorious period began in 1791 when Goethe became its director. His friendship and cooperation with Schiller

contributed to the golden age of German drama. Goethe left the theatre in 1817, and the building was burned down in 1825. He supervised the building of a new one, where the first performances of many of Wagner's operas were presented.

The Communist authorities of Weimar have carefully preserved the cultural traditions of the town, but they haven't much time for the republic to which it gave its name. A plaque in the theatre records that Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution propelled Germany into the disaster of fascism.

ONE OF West Germany's security services, the Office for the protection of the Constitution, hit on a novel way of disposing of its unwanted — mainly secret — files. Every month it sent five tons or so of them to Cologne to be burned by prisoners in an incinerator. The waste paper was of particular interest to an inmate who some years ago had close contacts in the East German State security service. He smuggled some of the files outside the gaol — as a trusty the man was allowed out to attend a vocational course — and handed them over to a newspaper. They contained reports on West German citizens who had been under surveillance by the intelligence service, the key to a code, microfilm, and photographs of Soviet passports.

The parliamentary committee dealing with security affairs has been called from summer holiday to investigate the leakage — and the service's method of waste disposal has been changed. This affair is not all that unusual, however. Some years ago it was disclosed that the chancellor's office was having cabinet papers duplicated by prisoners.

UN clash on Bangla Desh

From our Correspondent

Geneva, July 16
The Bangla Desh crisis came up within the United Nations framework for the first time today. And it caused a bitter exchange between India and Pakistan at the UN Economic and Social Council meeting.

The row erupted after Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, had described what his office had done for the nearly seven million East Pakistani refugees now in India and what remained to be done.

Although he carefully side-stepped politics, both the Pakistani Ambassador, Mr Agba Sbaht, and the Indian Ambassador, Mr Narayan Krishna, used the occasion for a heated debate. Pakistan alleged that India was training "40,000 guerrilla infiltrators to raid our country. What the World Bank report of a worsening situation omitted was that armed Indians were being made from Indian sarabandis."

Mr Sbaht added — and he quoted the Guardian's Martin Woolcott — that reports of killing and genocide "are wildly exaggerated. How can you do this to 75 million people?"

A session continued through the lunch hour. The anger flamed when the Indian delegate said: "The refugees must return to Pakistan and the only conditions under which this could happen are under a freely elected Government. We will not tolerate any solution at her expense."

He added that the Pakistani offer of a "general amnesty" was meaningless because of its definition. "The only danger to peace on the border comes from Pakistani actions. India has had to take necessary defence and security measures because of what Pakistan has done. Does not the expulsion of millions of people constitute a covert form of aggression?"



Rush hour in Hongkong, where 3,800 minibuses, each of which can carry 14 people, are augmenting the regular bus services. They are estimated to carry over a million passengers a day

Greeks unimpressed

Athens, July 16

The Greek Prime Minister, Mr Papadopoulos, said here today that the return to parliamentary rule in Greece could not be linked with any foreign aid, however high this might be. He was commenting on yesterday's decision by the foreign affairs committee of the United States House of Representatives to cut off American military aid to Greece.

Mr Papadopoulos said: "We may have elections today, after 20 months, or after 20 years. The decision to hold elections will be taken with the interest of the nation as the sole criterion, and is not going to be linked in any way with any sort of assistance."

"There is not enough gold in the whole world to be given in exchange for the sale of the interests of the nation or to endanger its survival."

Uganda army clashes

From DAVID MARTIN

Dares Salaam, July 16

The claim by Uganda's President General Amin, that there has been heavy fighting at two army barracks in his country was borne out today by reports reaching here from Kampala. But the reports are at variance with the General in that they stress that no external elements were involved.

A tragic incident occurred at Moroto, 600 miles from the Tanzanian border but just inside the frontier with Kenya. According to reliable sources, fighting broke out on Sunday following a meeting at which Government officials were trying to persuade Karamajong tribesmen to wear clothes.

Ex-President Obote had launched a similar campaign without success when he was in power but on Sunday the Karamajong responded angrily and attacked the officials. These made off to nearby barracks for safety and when the tribesmen tried to follow, troops opened fire killing a number of them.

The fighting at Jinja on the northern shore of Lake Victoria was between army factions, the reports reaching here say, and the battle went on sporadically until late on Wednesday. It is believed this was started by Acholi troops who turned on fellow tribesmen they thought were acting as informers, as well as on troops who supported General Amin. No details are known about the numbers killed in this conflict.

The fighting at Mbarara barracks three weeks ago is also believed to have been between Acholi supported by Lango soldiers, and the rest. The military balance within the country remains confused but it is felt that the Acholi who saw most of their senior officers killed during the coup in January or afterwards, feel they have been pushed too far.

Only two in Chile election

By JO BERESFORD

Chile is taking more than its usual interest in an election to be held tomorrow in the province of Valparaiso. The voters go to the polls to elect a successor to the Christian Democrat Deputy, Graciela Lacoste, who died recently, but they have only two candidates from whom to choose.

The Christian Democrats and the Right-wing National and Democratic Radical parties are supporting the same candidate, Dr Oscar Marin, while the Popular Unity Coalition is supporting a Socialist, Herman del Canto, who is secretary general of the Central Trades Union Movement.

This is the first time since President Salvador Allende was elected that the Right and the Christian Democrats have worked together in an election.

Until now, the Christian Democrats have been very careful to distinguish their activities from those of the Right. They have done so partly because the Right has been in disgrace since its involvement in the assassination of the army chief, General Rene Schneider, last October, and partly because of internal party pressures. But since the assassination of one of their number, Edmundo Perez Zujovic, last month, the Right-wing of the Christian Democrats has taken the upper hand in party affairs.

And so when the Right-wing parties announced their support for Marin, the Christian Democrats did not officially oppose it, in spite of vociferous protest from the left of the party which threatened an outright split.

The Christian Democrats are taking a gamble, and can hardly afford to lose. Apart from involving a Christian Democrat seat, the election is now bound up with the question of party unity and party policy.

Franco adds to Prince's role

Madrid, July 16

General Franco announced today that Spain's King-designate, Prince Juan Carlos of Bourbon, would act as Head of State if the Generalissimo becomes ill or travels abroad.

The announcement came in the form of a decree amending the two-year-old law which covers the question of Franco's succession. Under the 1968 "Organic Law of State," Juan Carlos, now 33, is to become King of Spain and Chief of State if Franco retires or dies.

No explanation was given for the timing of today's decree. It is understood that General Franco, who is 78, does not intend to travel abroad at the present time and is in good health considering his age. He gave audiences this week as usual and has several engagements before starting his summer holidays at the end of the month.

Prince Juan Carlos has been taking an increasing role in public life, and has been warmly greeted on several official visits to the provinces in recent months. The decree strengthens his position even further.

It has also led to speculation that General Franco might take another precautionary step for the future by appointing a Prime Minister, which would enable him to take more rest. His right-hand man, Vice-President Admiral Carrero Blanco, already acts as a virtual Premier. But the General presides at Cabinet meetings and takes the major decisions.

He is due to receive the United States Vice-President, Mr Agnew, at the weekend — Reuter and UPI.

Holiday isle for Rhodesia

From our Correspondent

Salisbury, July 16

Air Rhodesia will inaugurate package holidays to the Malagasy Republic at the end of this month. The Rhodesian Government has, it is understood, agreed to circumvent United Nations' mandatory travel sanctions, under which Rhodesian passports are illegal.

Malagasy will not require passports on the Air Rhodesia holidays, so will not officially know which passengers are "illegal" travellers.

It is possible that other Indian Ocean Islands — Mauritius, Reunion, the Comoros, and the Seychelles — will also be opened to Rhodesians.

A Rhodesian newspaper, the "Financial Gazette," said today: "The Malagasy decision is of significance as it underlines Rhodesia's widening outside door operation. Rhodesia is sign an international contact agreement, and Zambia is already buying maize from Rhodesia."

15 years' gaol for spying

A military tribunal in

Istanbul has sentenced Jewish businessman to 15 years in prison on charges of spying for Bulgaria.

Ismael Garipirlerden (43) is alleged to have been caught redhanded while taking pictures of military installations.

TELEVISION

LOACH AND GARNETT'S last for LWT finally gets shown: a remembrance of a fighter in the class-war, shot in seedy Liverpool, with the characteristic straddling of styles ("After a Lifetime," ITV, 10.15). Elsewhere, "Omniibus" recalls, with help from his friends, the curious character of George Munre, Irish Man of Letters (BBC-1, 10.5). Gillian Reynolds, "radio critic and Liverpool housewife," offers "One Woman's Week" (BBC-2, 9.40).

BBC-1
9.0-9.30 a.m. Nai Zindagi — Naya Jeevan.
10.30-11.30 Morning Service: St Mary's, Tenby.
1.30 p.m. Farming.
1.45 Parkers at Salttram: part 2.
2.15 Mad in Britain.
2.28 News.
2.30 Going for a Song: Antiques.
3.0 Show Jumping: International Horse Show.
5.15 Life at Large: Dream of Two Cities.
5.5 News.
6.15 The Eighties: Bernard Levin probes the future of Newspapers.
6.45 In the Beginning.
6.55 Roy Dotrice appeals: The Chalfont Centre.
7.0 Songs of Praise: Newlands South Church, Glasgow.
7.25 Dad's Army.
7.55 Film: "Sweet Bird of Youth," with Paul Newman, Geraldine Page.
9.50 News.
10.5 Omniibus: Hail and Farewell to George Moore, Irish Man of Letters.
11.0 Both Sides of Europe: Why a European Community?
11.30 Weather.

BBC-2
6.45 Swn Y Deffro, 10.5-11.0 a.m. Newydd Gyngred, 11.22 Weather, Close.
ENGLISH REGIONS—11.33 p.m. Regional Weather, Close.
BBC-2
10.35 a.m.—12.30 p.m. Open University: Social Sciences 26; 11.5 Science 25; 11.55 Mathematics 26; 12.5 Arts 25.
1.50-4.30 Cricket: John Player League—Somerset v. Hampshire (4.0, Profile of W. J. Edric).
7.0 News.
7.25 Animal, Vegetable, Mineral?
7.55 World About Us: The Last Frontier—British Columbia.
8.40 Music on 2: Summer League—Somerset v. Hampshire (4.0, Profile of W. J. Edric).
9.40 One Woman's Week: Gillian Reynolds.
10.5 Borderers.
10.55 News, Cricket Scoreboard.
11.5 Flip Wilson Show.

ITV
LONDON WEEKEND
10.35 a.m. Camping and Caravanning.
11.0 Morning Service: St John's Methodist, Ashbrooke, Sunderland.
12.5 p.m. Music in the Round with The Amadeus String Quartet.
12.30-12.55 Alive and Kicking — British Poets: Ivor Cutler.

WALES (As BBC-1 except).
1.20-1.45 a.m. Farming in Wales.
3.0-3.25 Welsh Dog Show.
3.25 Showjumping, 6.15-

Sunday

Message? 6.29 Weather, 6.30 Lost Pictures, 6.35 Appeal, 6.45 Songs That Matter, 7.25 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "Modesty Blaise," with Monica Vitti, Dirk Bogarde, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Smith Family, 11.50 Epilogue.

MIDLANDS (ATV)—11.0 a.m. Morning Service, 12.5 p.m. Music in the Round, 12.30 p.m. Camping and Caravanning, 1.0-1.27 Farmhouse Kitchen, 1.45 Tomorrow's Horoscope, 1.55 Train, 2.0 Mad Men, 2.30 Sports from the Midlands, Rallypoint, 3.15 Film: "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, 4.40 Golden Shot, 5.35 Forest Rangers, 6.5 News, 6.15 Got the Message? 6.30 Lost Centuries, 6.55 Appeal, 7.0 Songs That Matter, 7.45 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "80,000 Suspects," with Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, 9.55 Cartoon, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Avengers.

SOUTHERN—11.0 a.m. Morning Service, 12.5 p.m. Regional Weather, 12.30 Music in the Round, 12.35 Camping and Caravanning, 1.0 Farmhouse Kitchen, 1.25-1.50 All Our Yesterdays, 2.30 Farm Progress, 2.55 News, 3.0 Sports from the Midlands, Rallypoint, 3.15 Film: "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, 4.40 Golden Shot, 5.35 Forest Rangers, 6.5 News, 6.15 Got the Message? 6.30 Lost Centuries, 6.55 Appeal, 7.0 Songs That Matter, 7.45 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "80,000 Suspects," with Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, 9.55 Cartoon, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Avengers.

ANGLIA—11.0 a.m. Morning Service, 12.5 p.m. Music in the Round, 12.30 p.m. Camping and Caravanning, 1.0-1.27 Farmhouse Kitchen, 1.45 Tomorrow's Horoscope, 1.55 Train, 2.0 Mad Men, 2.30 Sports from the Midlands, Rallypoint, 3.15 Film: "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, 4.40 Golden Shot, 5.35 Forest Rangers, 6.5 News, 6.15 Got the Message? 6.30 Lost Centuries, 6.55 Appeal, 7.0 Songs That Matter, 7.45 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "80,000 Suspects," with Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, 9.55 Cartoon, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Avengers.

CHANNEL—11.0 a.m. Morning Service, 12.5 p.m. Music in the Round, 12.30 p.m. Camping and Caravanning, 1.0-1.27 Farmhouse Kitchen, 1.45 Tomorrow's Horoscope, 1.55 Train, 2.0 Mad Men, 2.30 Sports from the Midlands, Rallypoint, 3.15 Film: "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, 4.40 Golden Shot, 5.35 Forest Rangers, 6.5 News, 6.15 Got the Message? 6.30 Lost Centuries, 6.55 Appeal, 7.0 Songs That Matter, 7.45 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "80,000 Suspects," with Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, 9.55 Cartoon, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Avengers.

WEST & WALES (RTV)—11.0 a.m. Morning Service, 12.5 p.m. Music in the Round, 12.30 p.m. Camping and Caravanning, 1.0-1.27 Farmhouse Kitchen, 1.45 Tomorrow's Horoscope, 1.55 Train, 2.0 Mad Men, 2.30 Sports from the Midlands, Rallypoint, 3.15 Film: "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, 4.40 Golden Shot, 5.35 Forest Rangers, 6.5 News, 6.15 Got the Message? 6.30 Lost Centuries, 6.55 Appeal, 7.0 Songs That Matter, 7.45 Doctor at Large, 7.55 Film: "80,000 Suspects," with Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, 9.55 Cartoon, 10.0 News, 10.15 Play: "After a Lifetime," 11.30 Avengers.



Dana Andrews, Linda Darnell star on LWT at 7.55

RADIO

RADIO 4 330 m.; VHF
7.50 a.m. Sunday Reading, 7.55 Weather, 8.0 News, 8.10 Sunday Papers, 8.20 Anna H. (BBC), 8.30 News, 8.40 (BBC), 8.50 Programme News, 9.0 News, 9.10 Sunday Papers, 9.20 Anna H. (BBC), 9.30 News, 9.40 (BBC), 9.50 Programme News, 10.0 News, 10.10 Sunday Papers, 10.20 Anna H. (BBC), 10.30 News, 10.40 (BBC), 10.50 Programme News, 11.0 News, 11.10 Sunday Papers, 11.20 Anna H. (BBC), 11.30 News, 11.40 (BBC), 11.50 Programme News, 12.0 News, 12.10 Sunday Papers, 12.20 Anna H. (BBC), 12.30 News, 12.40 (BBC), 12.50 Programme News, 1.0 News, 1.10 Sunday Papers, 1.20 Anna H. (BBC), 1.30 News, 1.40 (BBC), 1.50 Programme News, 2.0 News, 2.10 Sunday Papers, 2.20 Anna H. (BBC), 2.30 News, 2.40 (BBC), 2.50 Programme News, 3.0 News, 3.10 Sunday Papers, 3.20 Anna H. (BBC), 3.30 News, 3.40 (BBC), 3.50 Programme News, 4.0 News, 4.10 Sunday Papers, 4.20 Anna H. (BBC), 4.30 News, 4.40 (BBC), 4.50 Programme News, 5.0 News, 5.10 Sunday Papers, 5.20 Anna H. 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France adds to Prince's role

HOME NEWS

Food prices will not be pegged: world demand is blamed

By MALCOLM STUART

There is little chance of the food industry pledging itself to the Confederation of British Industry's suggested 5 per cent price rise ceiling. The Grocers' Federation stood by its earlier prediction of a 10 per cent increase in food prices over next year, and the Food Manufacturers' Federation was equally unwilling to accept price peg.

Both groups explained that the cost of raw materials was the deciding factor, and this is affected by the greater competition for available food by a rapidly expanding world population. Some sections of that population now have more money available to eat adequately.

Mother leaves children

Joan McCarthy yesterday left her three children and five dogs to be looked after by the States on holiday. Mrs McCarthy, a widow, aged 41, before she boarded her train for Boston, said she was leaving her children in the care of her mother-in-law, and now there is no one to look after them. "I know what will happen to them," she said.

Mrs McCarthy had interviewed at Stoke Newington police station, London, on Monday.

and the question of the children would be considered by the Children's Department of the Council when she returned.

children, aged 15, 13, 9, and 5, are expected to be looked after by Mrs McCarthy's son, Patrick, aged 17, and wife, supported by the Children's Department.

in blackout on negotiations representing 1,000 ITV negotiators met today to consider a new pay by the ITV companies, may break the deadlock in a national pay agreement, avert a strike.

ar thieves campaign to make motor-vehicle security-minded is launched by Scotland Yard today.

London's House Hotel, 10, Park Lane, London, is to be the site of a new Carlton. A High action by the owners of the hotel, Piccadilly, has settled.

nan summoned Chief-of-Staff of the IRA, Mr Cathal Brugha, 49, yesterday was in court at Rathfriland, on July 26.

Jobs cut 850 jobs out of 7,000 at the motorcycle division is cut, the firm said last week.

treast and Butlers, the firm which supply 3,000 Midland houses, said yesterday that the firm was to be closed as a result of hot and strikes.

mb is continued uninter-upted at the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday as a search for a bomb is made. Nothing was found.

nan dies Iron-Leader Michael J. Carpenter, 39, deputy flying instructor at the College, Cranwell, Lincoln, who lived in married quarters there, was found dead home yesterday.

arning on rice rise Justice Mocatta, president of Restrictive Practices Commission, ruled that an agent made by three newspapers to increase prices by one old penny just 9 last year was null and void.

decided that the agreement made orally by IPC and the News of the World was not in the public interest.

newspapers offered no other commodities whose prices were increased by the amount on the same day. The agreement was declared null and void.

of the ruling is to warn papers to refrain from agreements.

Scottish worry is still investment

IN the context of the great Common Market debate, Lanark is a constituency which conveniently has a little bit of everything to offer. Situated South-east of Glasgow, it is poised rather like a fashionably low-lying huckle on the central industrial belt of Scotland.

It also has a suitably chequered political history, which spans the emergence 40 years ago of Sir Alec Douglas-Home — then Lord Dunglass — as a somewhat diffident young MP, to the current presence of Mrs Judith Hart, MP, one of the most consistent anti-marketisers in the Labour Party.

The industrial way of life ranges from traditional skills in the hosiery mills of Lanark hugh to electronics and machine tool manufacturing in the new town of East Kilbride and intensive tomato growing in the Clyde valley. Neighbouring parts of the county provide links with the steel industry and reflect the decline of coal mining.

It is partly green and pleasant land, partly bleak moorland, and the main centres of population between them cover the traditions of town and country life. The hopes and fears among people at large over the prospect of British entry to Europe are as vague and various as elsewhere in Scotland: the last Scottish poll showed 71 per cent against entry. But there is a remarkable

ably general consensus of opinion in favour among the job providers in all branches of industry.

Mrs Hart, no mean adversary in a political cause, is convinced that on the level of popular opinion a clear majority of her constituents are opposed to entry. On recent weekend visits she has "been conducting random" for or against surveys and claims the result to be a "100 per cent no to entry."

She has been impressed, perhaps even more, by the number of "constituents I don't even know" who have approached her to make known their opposition. "Never," she says, "in almost 12 years as an MP, have I known this sort of spontaneous popular opposition on any other issue."

The Lanark constituency Labour Party formally decided to oppose British entry three weeks ago and intends to debate the issue again in the autumn before it comes up for decision in Parliament. In the meantime, Mrs Hart plans to organise a series of events to test further the strength of public opinion.

Her immediate reaction to the suggestion that a large majority of opinion is in favour of entry is: "I don't doubt it. I have always said that the Common Market would be good for profit but bad for people."

It would be particularly bad for the people of Lanark, she says, because it would be impossible to operate successfully a regional policy for movement of industry in conditions of a free flow of capital. The lesser items of incentive for industrial development would probably survive within the Common Market but the regions depended on a strong industrial development certificate policy and this would not be possible.

In sharp contrast, Mr John Bowman, chairman of the county council development committee, says: "The general feeling is one of optimism here. We feel the possibilities of early reduction would make the attraction of investment easier."

Mr Bowman admits that there is, at the moment, probably a majority on the county council opposed to entry but thinks the next two months will produce a "better balance."

"In my view," he adds, "a decision for entry is essential to the future of the area. There is no good economic argument against going in. I think it can do the region a lot of good."

A revealing instance of potential expansion came from A. MacDougall Ltd. one of the high-quality hosiery mills in Lanark. Mr A. R. Mairs, managing director, said: "We export fairly successfully now and will be a damn sight more successful when we are in Europe." He added that the firm expected to increase its turnover from £800,000 to more than £1 million in five years after entry. This would mean an additional 150 to an existing labour force of 350 — "which is quite a lot for a town like Lanark."

Mr Mairs, however, was disappointed at the lack of political activity in attempting to explain or discuss the Common Market issues in recent months. The Government, particularly, he thought, had failed on this score and might have difficulty in making up lost ground before the time for decision came in the autumn.

In the newer industries of East Kilbride there is a similar enthusiasm for what is seen as greater opportunities for growth in a larger market. Mr John Grant, managing director of Dictaphone Ltd., finds that with the exception of France the "EEC is tariffed out of the window for us at present."

Germany, in particular, would be a tremendous market if the company could compete in prices on equal terms. With British entry to the Common Market he would expect an increase of about 20 per cent in production and 15 per cent in jobs, to meet the demand of increased sales. Given this kind of potential for volume production he takes the view that "we are well able to work or compete with the best of them."

In the realm of machine tools Mr Alan Bolton, of Cincinnati Ltd., sees a more "swings and roundabouts" situation. He anticipates more severe competition on the home market from low-priced European products but a benefit from reduced tariffs in the EEC. The initial effect would probably be a holding of the present balance of trade but this would be coupled with the hope of increased overall growth in the economy.

Perhaps the most vulnerable of Lanark's basic industries is potato growing. Here the burning concern is as with the inshore fishermen — is that the Government should negotiate satisfactory terms in detail. Mr Tony Campbell, one of the leading growers in the Clyde Valley, is anti-Market, by inclination but undaunted in hard commercial outlook. With fair competition in an enlarged community, he says, the outlook for the industry will not be as bleak as it might seem. He adds, however, that everything depends on whether the Government looks after the interests of the growers as well as governments have on the Continent.

002 is still in doubt

By DAVID FAIRHALL

MR Frederick Corfield, the aerospace Minister, seemed favourably impressed by his first flight in Concorde yesterday and said after landing that both the Prime Minister and Prince Philip were keen to fly in the aircraft. He was predictably unable to promise that the Government will put the aircraft into production.

He said a production decision would depend on airline orders. It would be unreasonable to expect potential customers to make up their minds until flight tests had confirmed Concorde's capabilities, and this would take another three months.

Mr Corfield flew from Concorde's base at Fairford, Gloucestershire, out over the Bay of Biscay, where the test pilot, Brian Trubshaw, increased the speed to twice the speed of sound. The Minister had arrived at Fairford in an ancient Dakota provided by the British Aircraft Corporation, a subtle move which may not have been intended by the manufacturers' public relations department, but which must have provided a fascinating comparison of noise and vibration levels.

The Minister's verdict on his supersonic flight was: "Very smooth. There was nothing any passenger could conceivably complain of. A remarkable experience not notably different from what I had anticipated after talking to other people."

"One does not really react to speed at a great height and neither was there any feeling that one was landing at high speed. In some ways it seemed slower when landing than in, for instance, a Trident. I don't think the average person will notice any difference at all in this type of supersonic flight — except that he gets there quicker."

Flying with the Minister were Mr Jim Hamilton, Deputy Secretary for Aviation Supply; Mr Philip Jones, Government director of the Concorde project; Sir Robert Marshall, Permanent Secretary for Trade and Industry; Sir Peter Fletcher, Controller of Aircraft; Ministry of Defence; and Mr R. J. Pridde, private secretary.

The last phase will be similar to the Scandinavian system of rehabilitating the drunken driver, who is often unaware that his drinking has reached problem level. The "social drinker," according to a Psychiatric Institute study in Chicago, is a major cause of traffic accidents. The British Act-in spite of legal imperfections—had made a significant contribution to preventing a serious rise in accidents, the American lawyers were told.

Newcomers unwelcome Four hundred white-collar workers have called on the development corporation handling the £350 million expansion plan for Greater Peterborough to halt the campaign to attract London workers. They are all members of the technical and supervisory section of the Amalgamated Engineering Federation employed by the Perkins diesel factory which since Christmas has declared redundancy nearly 800 of its 8,000-strong labour force.

The workers say that job prospects for redundant workers are being blocked by newcomers.

New helicopter for army Westland is to develop an army support version of its successful Sea King twin-engine helicopter to be known as the Commando. It will be offered as a troop transporter, a weapons platform, and for logistic support and casualty evacuation.

Judge praises 'watchdog' press Newspapers are watchdogs for unmasking villains, Mr Justice Lawton told a High Court libel case jury yesterday. "In days when people lived in small communities one could not get away with roguery. But in these days, how are you and I to know who are rogues and who are not? We are asked."

"We find all sorts of people inviting us to invest money. How are we to know who is to be trusted and who is not? But there is a watchdog for us now—that is the press. One does not often find the radio exposing villains."

"Sometimes, in a very limited way, there is a programme on television which exposes a certain amount of naughtiness in the consumer world, but it is to the press we look for the exposure of the bad villains. And it is to the credit of the press that for many years now they have taken upon themselves the very important function of unmasking villains in the commercial and financial world, and their unmasking is very difficult indeed."

Mr Justice Lawton was beginning his summing-up to the jury when the hearing was continued of the "Mafia" libel damages claim brought by Associated Leisure Ltd., dealers in amusement and vending machines, Mr Cyril Shack, the company's managing director, and seven of his fellow directors, against Associated Newspapers Ltd.

The plaintiffs complain of an article in the "Daily Mail" in December 1968 claiming that the Mafia had been infiltrating gambling concerns in the West End. The plaintiffs maintain it meant that in making a bid for Butlin's they were controlled by the Mafia.

The defendants deny that the article was a complaint referred to Association Leisure. Alternatively, they contend that they were true.



Miss Eva von Rueber-Staier, a former Miss World, with one of three eagles at the medieval hall held last night at the Hurlingham Club, London, to mark the 10th anniversary of the World Wildlife Fund. The evening included jousting, archery, and the ancient sport of eagle flying from horseback.

Appeal to peers on migrants Bill

By our own Reporter

The Community Relations Commission has made a final appeal to peers considering the Immigration Bill to amend the sections which require future immigrants to register with the police and hold work permits for specific jobs, and which permit families including children up to the age of 18 — to be deported for the crimes of their parents.

In a memorandum to peers who have spoken publicly on the subject the commission says the establishment of harmonious relations requires that both the majority and the minorities enjoy a sense of security. "The Bill, it says, will increase the sense of insecurity felt by minorities, and will not provide any assurance that immigration is under control or that the number of immigrants entering is being limited."

The commission warns that relations between minorities and the police are of crucial importance, and are not as good as they should be. Compelling immigrants to register with the police can only make a difficult situation more difficult, it says: "nor is it a duty that the Police Federation appears anxious to undertake. The CRC suggests registration with the Department of Employment, or a local authority."

On deportation of families, the commission accuses the Government of introducing powers "intrinsically objectionable and also unnecessary."

On work permits, the commission says that if immigrant workers are to participate fully in the life of the community, they must know that they can change their jobs with ease if pressures are put on them by employers or management.

dececy. Kneller (Publishing, Printing and Promotions) Ltd. of Endell Street, Covent Garden, had been fined £500. Lord Justice Fenton Atkinson said it was for the jury to say whether, by present-day standards, the advertisements were corrupting public morals, even though the ads were consenting made adults in private was no longer a crime.

"I remember one in this court just before the war, when a stockbroker with a peculiar name claimed damages for libel because he said he had been made ridiculous in an advertisement which used his name to help the sale of a child's toy called a yoyo."

"At the end of that litigation he went away looking more ridiculous than he had before."

The judge was still summing-up when the hearing was adjourned until Monday.

London may see 'Sesame'

By our own Reporter

"SESAME STREET," the American pre-school education TV programme, is likely to get a London run this autumn.

The ITA has approved its showing by London Weekend which is considering broadcasting it on favourable Saturday for a short experimental period.

But even after two favourable reports on trial transmissions in the Harlech area, a nationwide showing is still a long way off: the ITA's schools committee considers the programme's educational value still an open question.

The show's London debut will probably consist of a series of 10 one-hour transmissions on Saturday mornings. London Weekend, which has no children's programme, is still considering whether to show it as children's entertainment or at adult viewing times.

A further series is planned by Harlech, probably in the late autumn. It will run daily for three weeks and will be subjected to more detailed research monitoring.

Research in April showed a favourable response from mothers, children, and teachers, and a survey by the National Council for Educational Technology was also favourable.

"Sesame Street" uses quick-film television advertising techniques to convey its message. It teaches the meaning of words by film of spirited children playing, and uses cartoons to teach numbers.

It is spiced with Goonish humour, set in Harlech, and its anchor man is a Negro.

Degree honour for Pinter Harold Pinter yesterday received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at Birmingham University.

An honorary Doctor of Laws degree was conferred on Lord Gardiner, Lord Chancellor in the last Labour Government. He was said to have given personal and official encouragement to Birmingham University's Institute of Judicial Administration.

Market polls grow

By HELLA PICK

Hardly a day goes by without a poll on EEC membership. The latest to emerge suggests that the Government's efforts to win support for membership are having some effect.

The poll, commissioned by the European Movement and conducted by Opinion Research Centre, finds that support for British membership has risen from 27 to 37 per cent during the past fortnight. It also shows that for the first time, opposition to entry has fallen to less than half the population. This time, only 44 per cent opposed entry, as against 55 per cent a fortnight ago.

A great many market research firms are engaged in carrying out polls for a variety of organisations. Not all of them are published. But the whole object is to find out how public opinion is moving, and where the strongest pockets of resistance or support are to be found.

Earlier this week, the "Financial Times" published the result of a poll conducted for it by the British Market Research Bureau, which still showed far stronger opposition to EEC membership than a yesterday's poll published by the European Movement. Yesterday's poll showed that businessmen are almost solidly in favour of joining the EEC. Also, the European Movement published a detailed survey of people's attitudes to EEC membership had been investigated in depth.

The survey had been made earlier this year, and suggested that much of the opposition to EEC membership came from people who believed themselves to be badly informed on the EEC, and moreover did not rank the membership issue as a very high priority. It may well be that the growing public debate is beginning to stimulate better understanding. The pro-market people are convinced that their case can only gain from such a development.

Mr Wilson could not maintain his intellectual integrity and at the same time complain about the terms of Britain's entry into the Common Market, the Home Secretary, Mr Maudling, told the Conservative Women's Group Committee, yesterday. He said Mr Wilson complained about the terms of entry when he knew he had no chance of getting better terms for Britain himself.

A substantial majority vote for Britain's entry when the House of Commons voted on the terms of entry, Mr Terence Higgins, Minister of State at the Treasury, said last night at a meeting of the Sheffield Institute of Directors. Since the European Community was formed, it had achieved a growth rate twice as good as Britain's, he said.

The executive of the National Union of Dyers, Bleachers, and Textile Workers voted in Bradford yesterday in favour of Britain's entry.

The Trade Unions Against the Common Market organisation will seek permission to use Trafalgar Square for a demonstration on Sunday, October 24 — four days before the vote in the House of Commons.

Eggs would be sold in seven different grades if Britain entered the Market, the British Egg Association said yesterday. It urged that the EEC weight gradings should come into effect by 1975.

Mr Reginald Prentice, Labour MP for East Ham North, and Home Minister, said yesterday that the Government is not in favour of Britain joining the EEC, as reported in yesterday's Guardian. He has been consistently against, and is a patron of the Common Market Safeguards Campaign, which is opposing entry.

Derailment killed children after track danger reported

A railwayman yesterday told an inquiry into the derailment near Chester which killed two schoolchildren on July 2 that he had reported "creep" in the section of track concerned in February. His superior told the inquiry that in his opinion the track did not require attention in February, but later it became more serious and he had filed a report on its condition in May.

Major C. F. Rose, inspecting officer of railways, said at the end of the inquiry that the derailment of a rear coach in the excursion train was caused by huddling of the track. But there were number of matters raised which called for further inquiry and it would not be inappropriate for him to inounce any findings.

However, he thought it had been established that the derailment had been caused by severe lateral distortion of the track, a risk that developed under a train. That buckle was the cause of instability in the track was not done, the safety margins start to shrink "he said. "Trains travelling over it are at risk."

Fines plan for Tubes

London Transport, with the king of its new Greater London Council superiors, plans to introduce a fixed penalty for fare dodgers on the underground, with fines of not more than £1. The earliest scheme could start would be details of the scheme have yet been decided, but they eventually be presented to GLC for approval and then to the House of Commons.

Mr. Peter G. Davies, chairman of the GLC, said the council would be introducing a new system of fines for fare evasion. The cost is estimated at £3 millions a year on a fare intake of £54 millions.

All the ticket windows at a station are shut and the fines are not working, passengers will be able, under the scheme, to take a free ticket from the machine which will give the on and date. At the destination this will establish the bona fide of the passenger who can his fare then.

London Transport acknow-

ledged yesterday that the fare-paying facilities at Tube stations are less than perfect. Efforts are being made to make the ticket dispensing machines more flexible. Security prevents the machines being left working in the evenings when manpower in the ticket offices is expensive.

London Transport's proposal does not include buses, but the British Railways Board is considering the same scheme. The board would have to secure parliamentary approval through the Ministry of Transport.

In the spring, Southern Region announced that extra ticket duties were being given to 1,000 men, mostly guards. On corridor trains travelling combine present duties with ticket checking and issuing; on non-corridor trains travelling inspectors will, like bus inspectors, select carriages and get out and move from train to train at commuter stations.

Losses through fare evasion on the rest of British Railways is regarded as a drop in the ocean. Southern Region reckon to lose between £1-2 millions in an annual fare intake of £71 millions.

Warning on Welsh school

The Secretary for Wales, Mr. Thomas, who speaks Welsh, told the Welsh Joint Education Committee at Llanelli yesterday that compulsory teaching of Welsh could have harmful effects. "To insist on a secondary stage, on the part of Welsh to all pupils throughout the main school can be a climate of opinion which is harmful to the development of bilingual education in Wales," he said.

Edward for school

Prince Edward, aged seven, the Queen's youngest child, is to spend a year at Gibb's preparatory school at Kensington, starting in the September term. He has been having private lessons. James Ogilvy, the son of Princess Alexandra, is also going to Gibb's and Lord Linley also spent a year there. Among the old boys was the late Senator Robert Kennedy.

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION RESULTS BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY

METALLURGY	First Class Honours	Second Class Honours	Third Class Honours
Mr. C. J. Adams, Mr. D. J. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams

METALLURGY (ORDINARY)	First Class Honours	Second Class Honours	Third Class Honours
Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams	Mr. A. Adams, Mr. B. Adams, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. E. Adams, Mr. F. Adams, Mr. G. Adams, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. I. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. K. Adams, Mr. L. Adams, Mr. M. Adams, Mr. N. Adams, Mr. O. Adams, Mr. P. Adams, Mr. Q. Adams, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. T. Adams, Mr. U. Adams, Mr. V. Adams, Mr. W. Adams, Mr. X. Adams, Mr. Y. Adams, Mr. Z. Adams

Jealous man fired house—killed son

A labourer jealous of a woman's association with another man set fire to a house in which 13 people were living, Mr. Stephen Brown, QC, said at Berkshire Assizes, Reading, yesterday. Six of them had to be treated in hospital for burns and one of the seven children in the house—the labourer's own child—died.

Leslie Hall (21) admitted maliciously setting fire to the house and unlawfully killing David Lynch, aged 17 months. He was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Mr. Brown said the charges arose out of a "dreadful" fire at a terrace house in Pitecroft Avenue, Reading. Hall had been a friend of Miss Cathy Power, who was staying at the house when her sister, Mrs. Helen Lynch, was living.

Hall telephoned and appeared to be jealous that Miss Power was there with someone else.

On the night of 3 a.m. she and the man she was with were in the house by the window: soon the whole of the house was alight and the fire spread throughout the house.

The child David Lynch, son of Hall and Helen Lynch, died a few days later from the effects of inhaling smoke. When Hall was told, he said: "So what, isn't it? I have had no feelings for the two women. Why should I have any feelings for the kid? I would feel the same way if all of them had died."

Hall was said to have admitted lighting a paper refuse sack covering up a cracked window of the room, and said: "I thought they could put it out themselves." He was said to have had previous convictions, including one for arson when he was a child.

Manager quits

A primary school manager at Bude, Cornwall, has resigned because, he says, he was denied the right to act according to Cornwall education authority's rules of management.

Mr. Dick Willoughby said yesterday he had asked the managers to bring pressure to bear on the county education committee to remedy overcrowding at the school, but was told it was not part of their job to act as a pressure group.

The rules, he said, clearly stated that "a school manager should be responsible for supervising the conditions of the school premises, and ensuring, as far as possible, that those premises are at all times fit for occupation for school purposes."

Mr. R. Spencer, district clerk for education, said disagreement had arisen over the way in which the school's plight should be brought to the attention of the education authority.



Mr. Jeremy Thorpe (right), leader of the Liberal Party, acting as best man at the wedding at St Martin's in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, yesterday of Mr. Mihir Gnanapavan, chairman of the Indian Association of the United Kingdom, and Miss Marjorie Tonks. Mr. Thorpe is the current president of the association.

School OZ 'a prank'

The prosecution of the magazine "Oz" for its "Schoolkids" issue was bound to have a harmful effect on the children who contributed to it, a former headmaster told the Old Bailey yesterday. Mr. Michael Duane, now a lecturer at a Rochamton teachers' training college, said it was a sin "that some apparently mentally deranged people could bring the whole process of law to bear on young people."

Mr. Duane, of Waverley Road, Streatham, was giving evidence in the trial of Richard Neville (29), of Palace Gardens Terrace, Kensington; James Anderson (33), of the same address; Felix Dennis (24), of Wandsworth Bridge Road, Wulham; and O. Publications, Ltd., who have all pleaded not guilty to charges under the Obscene Publications Act.

Mr. Duane said the people who took action were apparently mentally deranged "because no one in his normal senses would deal with a prank in this way. If I found children in school who had scribbled sexual drawings on classroom walls or lavatories I would not immediately send for the police. I would be more likely to deal with them by discussing it and the consequences of their actions with them."

Committee urges new drive against cancer

A total reorganisation of health facilities for the treatment of cancer patients was proposed yesterday by the Central Health Services Council.

The plan, which would set up regional cancer clinics and research centres, is contained in the council's annual report, and has been forwarded to health and hospital authorities throughout the country.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for Social Services, described the proposals as far-reaching, and said yesterday that the first step was to consult the many interests involved.

The new centres would provide coordinated clinical, pathological, epidemiological and research facilities. The council suggests that the comprehensive service should be tried as a pilot project in three or four regions to test its effectiveness.

The council says that many would have an estimated 6,000 new cases of malignancy each year. The average doctor, with a practice of 2,500, was likely to find only seven or eight new patients a year.

The new centres could provide a coordinating centre for advice and information covering all general practices and hospitals in a region.

"The replanning of the cancer service should be started by the development of a few existing centres, each to be based on several general hospitals and linked with cancer registration, a cancer research organisation, and local social services."

Without special centres, the report suggests that progress in the treatment of cancer in Britain is likely to fall behind that of other developed nations. A centre with a catchment area of two million people

TGWU check on MPs will not include 'gag'

MPs sponsored by the Transport and General Workers' Union must put themselves up for re-examination by the union's parliamentary panel at the end of each government.

This decision, taken yesterday on the last day of the TGWU's biennial conference at Scarborough, though it merely reaffirms established union policy, shows that the TGWU still wants to have some control over MPs who have not supported union policy on important issues which arise during the course of the Parliament.

There is no suggestion, however, that the TGWU intends playing the tyrant with its 13 sponsored MPs. Mr. Harry Urwin, the union's assistant general secretary, in a clear and intelligent declaration, emphasised that the Labour Party was the party of government and that it had got to have its own democratic procedures.

Mr. Urwin pointed out that a person looking for sponsorship from the TGWU could, not reasonably, be asked if he identified himself with the movement, whether he spoke with the voice of the working man, and whether he wished to identify himself with the union in Parliament. Once these assurances were given, the union would probably sponsor him.

One of the union's officials, Mr. Alec Kitchin, is already facing the possibility of being referred to the Commons Committee on Privileges on Monday for making comments about the position of sponsored Labour MPs who might vote for entry to the Commons Market in opposition to TGWU policy.

Mr. Urwin said, therefore, that he had to choose his words carefully. He explained that, having been elected, any sponsored MP could rest assured that the union would not wish to exert any pressure on him except by the pressure of argument.

At the end of the Parliament, it was right that an MP should go back to seek re-election by the district branch or regional committee which nominated him. The import of Mr. Urwin's remarks is that the TGWU leadership does not want to be seen to be dictating to its MPs. If any policy differences arise, they would be settled eventually by the district nominating the MP.

This means that the four sponsored MPs who are known to support the Market—Mr. James Dunn, Mr. Maurice Foley, Mr. Reg Prentice, and Mr. George Wallace—can cast their vote on the EEC confident that at least they will not automatically lose their sponsorship of the union at the next election.

7 years for Tube guard

An Underground guard who threw a girl passenger on to the line was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Brian Richard Pears (23), of De Beauvoir Road, Islington, had been found guilty on June 9 of attempting to murder Miss Jill Robertson, aged 23, a computer operator at Merlin Road, Edgware, on December 15 last year. He was said to have thrown her out as the train travelled between Golders Green and Hampstead.

Bleeding

Mr. John Mathew, prosecuting, had previously told the court that Miss Robertson was in the rear compartment when Pears grabbed her round the throat, and after a struggle pushed her out of the open door.

Bruised and bleeding, she crawled along a ledge and attracted an oncoming train by waving her bra-slip.

Yesterday, Judge Christmas Humphreys said to Pears: "It is almost a miracle that that girl survived, and survived by the remarkable presence of her mind."

She might well have been electrocuted or crushed by another train. Instead of which, in "an epic story of keeping her head," she crept along a minute ledge at the side of the tunnel, realising that she must do something to mask the green light ahead.

She masked it with her body and waved a garment to catch the headlights of the train so that the driver would stop, the judge said.

The right place for Pears to be kept was in a prison hospital, he said.

Anne better

Princess Anne is expected to leave hospital in London today after an operation last week for the removal of an inflamed ovarian cyst. She will convalesce at Windsor.

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Swan Hunter yards face shutdown

For the third time this year the Swan Hunter Group, the highest shipbuilding consortium in Britain, is facing a strike which could temporarily close its five Tyneside shipbuilding yards. The group lost £5 millions on shipbuilding last year and had an overall loss of nearly £2 millions.

More than 10,000 workers in the five yards left work last night for their annual fortnight's holiday not knowing whether there will be any work for them when they return.

Shop stewards representing 2,800 ancillary workers in the yards decided at Wallsend yesterday to stand by a notice of official strike action from Monday, August 2, the day on which all the workers return from their holidays.

The management had argued that 21 days' notice, which included two weeks' holiday time, was not a valid strike notice, but the stewards decided yesterday that the management had had enough time to consider their claim before strike notice was given.

The dispute is over a claim by the men for a top grade of £21.40 for a 40-hour week. This rate has recently been given to ancillary workers in several other North-east yards, including the two Swan Hunter repair yards on the Tyne.

The ancillary workers include crane drivers, stagers, slingers, platers' helpers, labourers, and cleaners. They are the lowest paid shipyard workers, but their work is vital to skilled men and the strike will mean that yards will close either on August 2 or very soon after.

THE CONSCIENCE of the liberal Afrikaner binds Athol Fugard to South Africa. At last he has a passport again, for one year and for Britain only, but now he's here, with wife and daughter in tow, his sense of family and community seems almost to forbid the rest of his mind to consider settling for good where he can watch his plays acted by mixed casts. He believes in "bridge-building." Yet he makes no secret of how much he enjoys the simple freedoms: just now four people, Fugard as director and a cast of three, two of them black and one white, are together quite legally preparing his "Boesman and Lena" for opening at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs on Monday.

He explains himself so often in the language of human relations, the brain-wirly, nervous man in jeans and brown ankle-boots, still sweating, when we met, from the tensions of rehearsal, and drinking lager out of the can.

"I'm part of the family, in the very large-scale sense I feel I'm even distantly related to Balthazar Johannes Vorster," he says.

And again: "I'm the son of an Afrikaner mother, who was the dominant influence in my background. I really do think of myself as a bastardised Afrikaner."

"What I sometimes write about in English is the Afrikaner; he has no possible identity outside that country, nobody else speaks his language. It's something that still informs the Afrikaner mentality: the larger, the wagons in a circle with the Afrikaners inside, shooting at the world through the wheels."

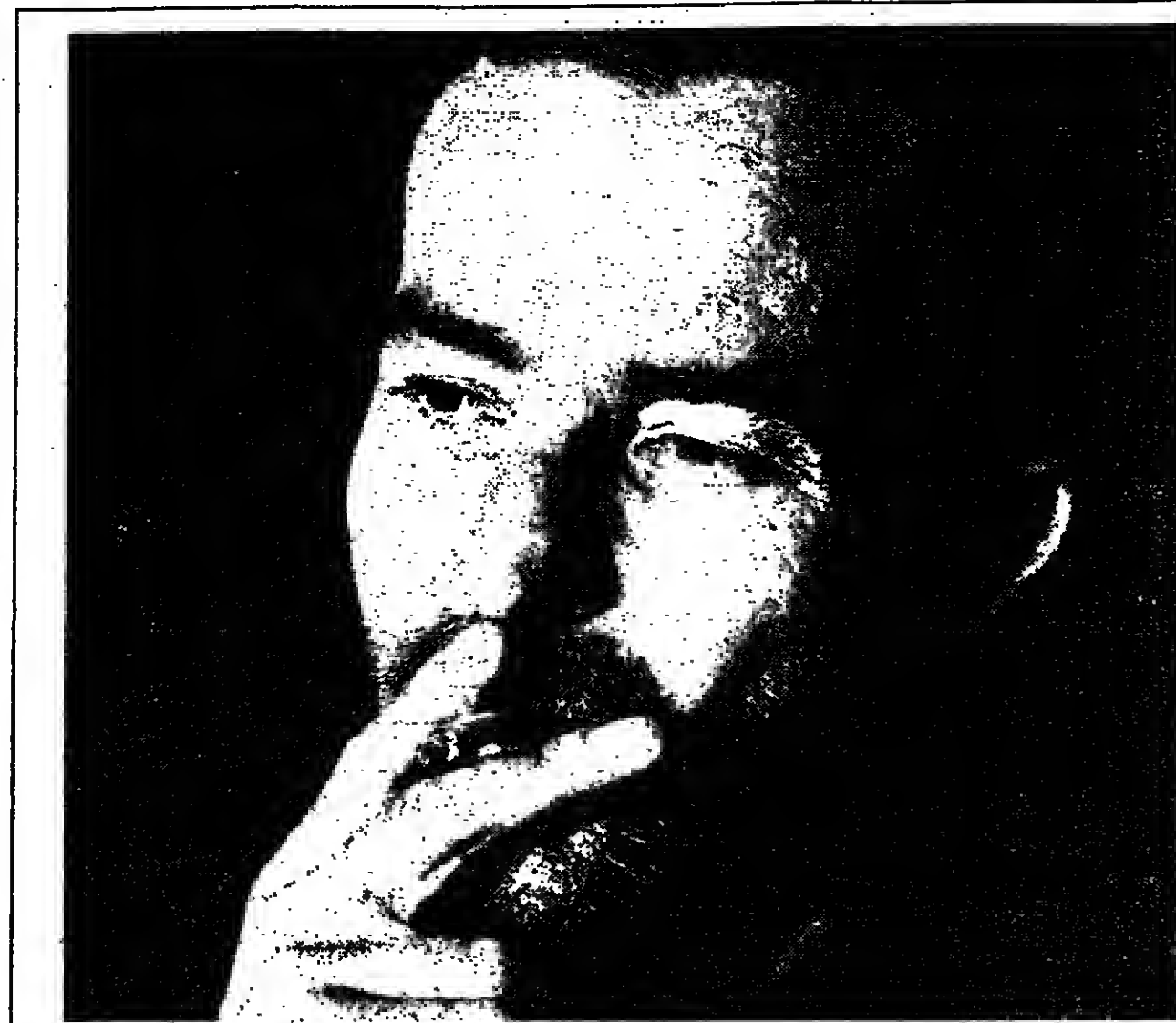
"It's a question of roots, of a time and a place which one comes to terms with. It's the source of my inspiration, it outweighs the restrictions Balthazar Johannes Vorster is an Afrikaner... and so is Bram Fischer, rotting away in Pretoria central prison because of his connections with the Communist Party."

Fugard was born 39 years ago at Middelburg in the Karoo—"It was very arid, very beautiful"—and led an unremarkably respectable existence until his second year reading philosophy at the University of Cape Town. He upped and left. "I didn't know then that I wanted to write, but I did know that the academic life was not what I wanted. I went to sea for two years on an old tramp steamer. By then I already knew I was at variance with what was happening."

He did some journalism. (Interviewing playwrights? "There were none around.") He broadcast a radio play, became stage-manager of a state-subsidised national theatre organisation, in the days when mixed casts could still play to mixed audiences. He had been writing one-acters, and now knew what he wanted to do: when he was 26 he brought off his first big play, "No Good Friday." From then on the business of being a playwright and a South African have run parallel courses, at least so far as the need for compromise is concerned.

The three plays that matter most to him are "The Blood Knot" (in which he himself acted at Hampstead Theatre Club in 1964), "Hello and Goodbye," and "Boesman and Lena." Together, he says, they depict "social circumstances that do terrible things to people. They're not so much a self-portrait, more a self-examination. There are very strong personal statements in the main parts I've written."

"The Blood Knot" is about a relationship between one man and another, "with the brother that you feel responsible for." One of the characters



picture by Douglas Jeffery

Vortrekking to a social confusion

CHRISTOPHER FORD interviews Athol Fugard, the South African playwright, whose 'Boesman and Lena' opens on Monday in London—a liberal man bound to his home country despite apartheid. A man of many dichotomies

is dark-skinned, the other light: the latter part, Fugard's own, is dauntingly long and insecure and must be a terror to learn—very over-written, he comments now. "Hello and Goodbye" throws up a brother and a sister, dwelling on their relationship with a dead father. "Boesman and Lena" are a middle-aged non-white couple, "tied not by blood but by habit, faceless people."

They've been uprooted, from somewhere near the author's familiar Port Elizabeth; they're on the road probably to nowhere. Life has made Boesman into a hilly, impotent at least in a sense. Lena finds an old man as a sort of pet, a dumb animal she wants to keep, but then when the stranger speaks it is only in an obscure tribal tongue.

"It's the dilemma, one way or another, of just about every South African. She needs a witness that night, but the moment he opens his mouth she realises that she isn't going to understand a word he says and he isn't going to understand her. And I

don't think our society is unique in making people impotent, but it does it in a very special way."

Fugard's characteristic subject-matter seems then to depend upon an underlying agony and wretchedness, though he stresses: "There's a bell of a lot of laughing takes place when the audience watch my plays." (Yes, he does say "players.") I haven't seen my plays as a member of the audience. I just know that we have to cope with a lot of laughter. It could be the laughter of recognition. "Boesman and Lena," though, is the most stark play I've written, the least informed with humour."

He feels physically part of his plays, and it's important to him to act in them or direct them whenever possible. He was a success off-Broadway, but quite a busy international career was interrupted four years ago when the South African Government took away his passport. "I was never told why," he said. "It was not the public interest," he told me. I think it's entirely coincidence, but it happened

24 hours after "Blood Knot" was shown on British television.

"It was most likely my association with people they considered positively undesirable. I did it a small way at one stage assist an organisation called 'Defence and Aid,' and if they spot what they think is a potentially dangerous element they say 'let's be careful.' I don't think it was anything to do with me as a writer."

As he goes on explaining why South Africa still holds his spirit so strongly, as he tries to express himself about self-expression, there are hushed phrases, sudden silences, tumbling sentences. At one point he says: "When I'm writing I sometimes get a terrible nausea, it's visceral. I go out and weed the garden." A passport needs to be guarded, anyway. "Just being a white South African involves compromise in a hundred different directions."

"The stopping of the cricket tour in Britain last year had more effect in South Africa than any cultural boycott, but occasionally a had arrogance informs my thinking: that a cricket

match in England isn't as important as a play by Bolt, say." (The remark is made, so far as I can tell, without the slightest hint of irony.) If I was outside South Africa and I'd written a play that someone wanted to do there I'd let my play in—but this is a personal statement.

"In terms of cultural boycott I've got to speak very carefully. I've accepted the circumstances. It would be strange for me to turn round and say to somebody else: 'Don't.'"

"The fact that I've accepted segregated audiences, that's viewed by a lot of friends of mine as a betrayal. But what have I betrayed? What was I being loyal to in the first instance? They would say 'anything that weakens the opposition, anything that's part of the struggle.' In reply I'd say—what would I say?—I'd say that 'Boesman and Lena' died yesterday and nobody knows it, and the first people to know it are fellow South Africans in South Africa. I'd say: 'Come and see my play, see if there's anything of value in it that needs to be said.'"

"And how real a concept is freedom? You start to function when coming to terms with a set of limitations. He sees a parallel of sorts with a composer like Bach expressing himself to the full in the most apparently rigid musical forms. He says that he learned economy from Bach's sonatas for unaccompanied violin and cello. He nods with familiarity at Lenin's view of the necessity of rationing so valuable a commodity as freedom."

But while South Africa has a strict enough censorship—Fugard smiles again, this time in mock horror, at the suggestion that anything by Burroughs might be admitted—he says that the theatre has so far been left alone.

"I have never yet been censored, and that's the most important freedom. The theatre is not represented as being a threat, partly because we can't yet play in—the overseas playwrights have done half the censor's job for him. And, I don't know, I sometimes wonder if given all the factors a writer might censor himself. In my own room I like to think there are no barriers between the thought and its articulation on paper."

"Perhaps it's a bit of an illusion, but sometimes I wonder if we have a little more flexibility creeping in. They showed the film 'Z' in South Africa. And Lindsay Anderson told me that the cuts they made in it... I didn't in any way weaken its statement." (No, but "South African citizens are not allowed to watch Wallace Licking his pin-up," writes Anderson in his preface to the published script, "or to hear Mick dreaming of walking oaked into the sea, making love once, and then dying.")

"The whole conception of censorship, you see, is one of stupidity. Censors are bloody stupid. Period. It's got to be spelled out to them."

And then he's baited in his tracks by everyone's last question to the sensitive, self-expressive South African. What about the future, in this case a future he appears determined to share? "Again I find myself very confused. It's a hard one, I pick up the tenor of what's happening in the townships, and I realise there's potentially a very explosive situation."

"Sometimes repressive regimes have lasted for a very long time, though. Remember that, Spain seems to manage. And Portugal." Nothing in the tone of voice reveals the extent to which this is pessimism or the other thing, or to which the creative artist depends on the shamshooks that fly his liberal conscience.

Stocking tops at San Sebastian

by Derek Malcolm

IF YOU WANT instant recognition after all these years, and possess a dinner jacket, you could do worse, ver much worse, than hang about the Victoria Eugenie Theatre. San Sebastian, around this time of year there, especially if you have long hair and the ability to give a Quee Mother wave of two fingers, you will be asked by autograph hunters to be pinned by nuns, almost crowned by the salutes of Basque sword-bearers and finally piped aboard the dress circle with an ovation ringing in your unaccustomed ears. Ever had the feeling that, after all, you're wanted? Well this is it, and how—"Artista, Signor? "Artista profunda... "havo."

Once inside, of course, it is perfectly possible that you will be bored to distraction and back again by the film Spanish subtitles making the dialogue clear as mud. But then again, you might not. The fare is not as hard to take as the seats, designed for st upper buttocks and certainly causing them. There are films from almost everywhere this time, with a Kin Vidor retrospective to boot. The San Sebastian Film Festival may not be the best in the world, but it certainly tries.

Signor Echarrri, the director, nothing if not persistent. He searches as far and as wide as ever this year but found the spectacular hard come by. Cannes, Berlin, and Venice take the creme de la creme and the Spanish susceptibles tend to want about as well in this permissive age. Distributors think of San Sebastian the key to a market that is expanding rather than contracting—quite a few these days—but they are wary of who they offer. Most of it isn't eye-boggling stuff, which explains why *La Story* as a gala performance on its final night.

Not that the Spanish industry isn't capable of raising an eyebrow, two in its fashion. "The Cocks are Crowing," the main home entrant, is very hard to be daring. Lola, says its synopsis, is murdered at the break of dawn. She floats in her legs separated and up to her thighs wears stockings which are not her own. Stockings at San Sebastian—what next?

Actually, Jose de Heredia's movie turned out an incredibly stifled commercial farago about a lark with one of those hearts, and Conchita Velasco obvious charms as Lola, swaying in the sea breeze, the only one certainly, sea. The synopsis is much better, with a final line that deserves preservation: "Seagulls," it broods, "flap upslip (sic) over the body." Birds, a feather fetish together."

Still, we did have a splendid Chabrol, though nothing Chabrol is actually very new since he invents a genre and decided to stick with it. Just as well, for he is another, his precise and subtle variations on themes of death, guilt, morality, justice within a strict control of middle-class family life. A business man (Michel Bouquet) so superbly "killer," strangles his mistress wanders slyly into the streets of Paris, meets her husband (his best friend), goes back to the bosom of his wife (Stephanie Audouin) and wonders whether and whom to tell.

A moral man, his sense of duty at his own action—itsself the product of his enraged morality—gradually upends him. No one suspects and he makes the guilt weigh somehow heavily. In the end he meticulously presides at his own death. The film, full of Chabrol'sque felicitous perfectly styled like a shining sea hair-do. The family, Chabrol's brutalities seen through the eyes of a guilty man, his genuine solace for a friend he made a widower, the perception with which Chabrol delineates a crumbling world: all it is wonderful, even if it is only Bouquet whose performance is allowed to be wings, leaving the others almost as symbols of his nightmare. On the London Festival will grab notwithstanding England's indifference towards the art and artness of its director.

Nadine, Trintignant's "Toni d'Amore" was a palpable miss with the festival audience, in spite of presence in it of Deneuve and Mastroianni. They play a couple, much in love whose smart sophisticated world is shattered by a sudden death of their baby. They a thousand deaths together and he refuses in their smart Parisian before a new dawn breaks and they for grief is over.

Much more interesting was Russian "Uncle Vanya," directed by Mikhalkov with Smoktunovskiy in the rôle. Smoktunovskiy is not really a bot in the rôle and there is an all disastrous lack of humour in all playing but otherwise Mikhalkov and sustaining a real Chekhovian atmosphere and certainly makes our feet. Three Sisters, a most impressive performance from Irina Kuvshenko. Yelena is otherwise the best thing in the film. Serguei Bondarchuk makes striking a row.

The Czech entrant, Karel Kachy, "Jumping over Pools," was worth seeing and given a great ora for its humanitarian sentimentality about a little boy who works a nobleman's stable in the days of Austro-Hungarian Empire. He infantile paralysis but learns to again in spite of a stiff leg and doctor's bad prognosis.

Anthony Friedmann's "Barbie and John Mackenzie's "Barbie Wittering and Zigo" represent Britain honorably, at least in the company. The former was much respected but less understood, particularly all the profound statements from director at the ensuing press conference. The latter, adapted by Si Raven from the old Glor Cooper play, has David Hemmings as the master who arrives to replace a colleague at a public school only to find that the class he is about to cheerfully admits to his murder. Cooper's ability to create an atmosphere of deadly nightshade, with round every corner, was legendary in his day. But he never did very much more and that's really sad even that. It isn't enough style credibility is lacking, perhaps because the cinema, unlike radio, won't let do your own imagining. There good performances, however, some of the boys and if it hadn't for "if" we might have had the school setting had seldom better observed.

review



(clarinet) and rich, finely judged ensemble from the orchestral body as a whole.

RADIO

Gillian Reynolds

Europe

MENTION THE Common Market to people in the television business and they groan and writhe. Now consider, on the other hand, the positively glutinous relish with which radio tackles the topic, with at least two editions of "It's Your Line" (as well as the way the issue seems to crop up every time a politician or trades unionist is the guest on the show) and the two programmes so far of "The Road to Europe" series. Then there was the debate "Analysis" between Norman St John Stevas and Peter Shore. The "Today" show laid on all those special bits of continental coverage when the last negotiations were going on and are always good anyway for a touch of whimsical portage when something crops up like the proposal to make the Schiller-Beethoven "Ode to Joy" the Euro-anthem.

And don't think they're going to let it go at the two and a half hour marathon cross-pollination of opinion of the subject on last week's "It's Your Line." There are several more programmes in the "Road to Europe" series planned and, dear knows, the conference season stretches before us for months yet, allowing even more scope for EEC talk-ins. Yet no matter how acceptal newspaper and television people are about the limits to public interest in the subject, last week's "It's Your Line" drew 21,000 telephone calls to the BBC during the four and a half hours the lines were open. What came out of the 508 calls which were answered was an absolutely fascinating programme which at times evoked such sparks of conflict from the participants that one might almost have thought some of the more pungent exchanges to be scripted.

Robin Day was the engagingly interpretive chairman of the panel of eight speakers (Reginald Maundling and Harold Lever for the pro side; Barbara Castle and Neil Marten for the anti; Denis Healey in the middle; Alan Watson, Thomas Barnam and William Clarke to sort out questions of fact rather than opinion). At the end, Mr Day invited those listeners who had stayed the entire two and a half hour course to give themselves a medal which is neither fair to an excellent programme nor to the stamina of radio listeners who are quite accustomed to taking all kinds of cultural goodies in two and three hour packages.

As a matter of incidental interest a straw poll was conducted on the basis of the 508 calls to "It's Your Line" that the BBC answered, the results of which came out as 259 for entry to the

EEC, 159 against, and 90 undecided.

I think radio has succeeded in arousing the sustaining interest in the whole European topic because of several basic factors. All of the programmes I have mentioned have taken place on Radio Four, which has allowed itself internally the scope to do odd funny foreigners' bits on "Today" and "PM" as well as to take the time to treat the subject at length and depth in specific schedules programmes. Radio can place total faith in the basic attraction of conflicting views, solidly expressed, whereas television constantly feels the necessity to jolly such straight exchange up with bright bits of visual distraction. Radio, being a minority medium, can take chances with early time slots and extended programme lengths where television lies in perpetual fear of losing its audience. Thus radio enjoys freedom to approach the European topic from a dozen different angles, to use two or three dozen different contributors' viewpoints, to experiment with audience participation formulae.

There is, however, a little more to it than that. It is one thing to have that kind of scope and freedom, quite another to put it to such fruitful use as radio has done over the past year. Credit must go to Radio Four for having the confidence in its own producers to put out important programmes in a way which has clearly caught the public ear. The medium does not have to be the message. It just depends on one's sense of proportion about the message and the messengers. If producers have to fight for the time and resources to put out in-depth current affairs coverage, if they are hampered by concepts about the prevailing need to keep and build vast audience figures, if they are up against a feeling from the top that news is a bore, then their programmes will show the strain. Radio, happily, seems to be running on quite the opposite course.

BRITISH COUNCIL

Robin Denselow

Caetano Veloso

THIS WEEK in the modest and cramped ball of the British Council Students' Centre, in London, Caetano Veloso gave his first solo concert in two years' exile in Britain. It was an exciting, gently hypnotic evening, and an encouraging sign of rock music's growing internationalism. Veloso is almost unknown here—but has become a myth in his own country, Brazil. Before he was forced to leave after the coup of December, 1968, he had become leader and symbol of a new wave in Brazil that spanned music, theatre, and cinema. His concerts led to controversy and debate, his records still sell there in thousands, and Brazilians claim him as their equivalent of Dylan or Lennon. He is a quiet, delicate man with a

face like a genial hawk, a shock of black hair, and clothes to match his new home in North Kensington, in a street where every other house holds a rock band. The most extraordinary thing about him is that he has taken the change in fortune so calmly: his career was meteoric, but truncated, ending dramatically in gaol. In Britain he has had to start almost from scratch, learning the language and learning to sing and write in it, and to adapt his style accordingly. He hasn't been completely alone in doing all this: his colleague, Gilberto Gil (who was gaoled at the same time) is also now living here. Gil and Caetano have just brought albums out here (on Famous SFBI 1001 and 1002) and are now starting out to play in public again, and build a new career here.

Caetano is the son of a Post Office worker in Bahia in the poor, Northeastern region of Brazil, and the Brazilian establishment and students alike with the style that became named after one of his best songs, "Tropicalia." He describes it as "ironic, bitter, immediately emotional, and romantic in the way the Rolling Stones are romantic." Did he mean super realism? He thought about it. "Yes, that's very, very good. Super realism." What it really meant was a daring juxtaposition of styles and images, which musically was "based on Bossanova before it became international music" with Western and Brazilian traditional influences added. He was hooped for playing electric guitar ("I thought I was going American, but I was being ironic about electric guitar") and shocked the authorities by indignantly roasting the expense of Brasília with the poverty in the north of the country. Established musicians hated him, and even left wing students ("a very nationalistic group") disapproved at first. But he won them over, and by 1967 was a national figure. The new wave in the other arts were influenced by his experiments, and became tagged, with him, as "Tropicalia."

But for all that, he said his work was never directly political. "We didn't make left wing statements and say that this should happen or that that should not happen, or that things that everyone knew about, but which had never been put together in that way before. We never said things directly." For the authorities, even his irony and questioning was too much, but though he was gaoled his songs were never banned. "I used to sit in the cell listening to them on the radio—it was very strange." He was released after two months, but then held under house arrest for another four. He was only indirectly told to leave, but if he wanted to continue working he really had little choice.

His new songs, in English, are rhythmic, lyrical, sometimes faintly ironic—but never revolutionary. Some are sad introspective songs of exile, inter-cut with fragments on Brazil and gaol. On Thursday night, with the help of a sensitive Brazilian backing group (just electric bass, drums, and acoustic guitar), he slowly built quiet, insistent rhythms and switched from English to Portuguese during his improvisation.

The bossanova influence was always there, but transformed into a highly personal style that made an interesting comparison with the best American and European acoustic rock. He was a mesmerizing performer, a master of understatement, who is obviously still learning to express the full subtlety of his maternal English. We're lucky to have him here.

TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

Bernard Kops

THE EPISODE of "Alexander the Greatest" (ATV) which was shown Thursday was the one originally scheduled for next week. Endless possibilities suggest themselves. Perhaps this week's episode was struck by lightning, or was out of sync, or fell in the sink. What is, however, quite conceivable is that "A Week to Live" was chosen because it was funnier than the advertised episode.

It was so short of laughs that you'd think, as the shop assistants say, "There's no call for them nowadays." Though this is Bernard Kops's first television series, he is a respected writer, so I thought—may be it is not meant to be funny. May be it's a study in the family life of an ordinary mink manufacturer. But there are no ordinary mink manufacturers.

If it was intended to be funny, try these for size. "I'm one of the Crickewood Thespians." "I won't tell a soul, or Haven't you heard of the great Stanislavsky?" "Is he in the fur trade?"

The series is supposed to centre on and celebrate an "intelligent, lovable, impossible boy," loosely based on Kops's own son. And here my heart goes out to the man. There is nothing more likely to bring the blood rushing to the eyeballs of the British than to relate with modest pride some witty quip of your child's. Nothing is more likely to bring letters suggesting that one should explode, emigrate, or, by some other means, disintegrate. Only my innocent remark that I didn't much care for music brought angrier letters. In their love of music and loathing of children, the English remind me forcibly of Herod.

On the credit side the series has Libby Morris, that rare bird a female clown and all too rarely seen recently. It also has a nice relaxed way with sexual jokes. But what I find very hard to forgive is the way the whole cast burst into happy laughter at the end. They will do it. Almost every American show. Every other British one. There is, I hope, a special television hell for people who die laughing at the end of a programme, or who talk apparently to themselves while driving cars in documentaries. But that's a list I can continue later.

July 1971

Stocking at San Sebastian

Minority report

W. Target on the
end-of-term agony

THE TIME of year which some parents most dread has come round again: that always drizzling afternoon when the child struggles in from school ten more minutes late than usual, with the report either lost on the way or uttered in reluctant hand.

Such crumbling of cherished illusions. Such stern fatherly lectures on the need for immediate improvement. Such anxious motherly pleadings for more lenient marks. Such necessary misery. Because, surely, we must those whose trust is not of this world still take these things so seriously, do they?

I mean you just think of the hope-odd against there being very much practical value in them, the indigestible impossibility of mass-producing truth on the standardised form. Least of all three times a year at the dragging end of terms!

And would you fancy the job of writing something both true and even slightly different for anything up to 50, 60, or more children? That's a class—if you were the headmaster—a medium-sized comprehensive you'd well over a thousand.

In any normal class there will be a pocket genius, much more intelligent than the teacher—and humility the only honest solution: you merely let the marks shine for themselves.

But what about all those in between? Ordinary children who'll grow up, in ordinary care, into ordinary people like us. Telling the cold and hard truth is out. Nothing much to be said about them—leave them alone, and they'll come home trailing all humanity behind them!

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And they tell the truth. Take the as bullseye, foul-mouthed insensitive addict to smoking, drinking, and these burn, and other unmentionable vices, of whom everybody (including the teacher) keeps clear at play. . . . he becomes, in this language, a Natural Leader with the Deserved respect of his fellows.

And what about that horn liar? The not to be trusted to tell you her name without lying? Easy. Lifted with a Vivid Imagination. Or dull plodder who takes ten minutes to copy the date from the blackboard? As easy when you have the knack: persistent and persistent. That over-trained idiot who interrupts a monologue on the future of Lower Asia with a statement of his views on the Arsenal or the current number in the hit parade?

And so on: "Strong Sense of Community" means that he will do nothing to hurt the crowd; "Genuine Sense of Humour" means he's given to dangerous practical jokes; "Contributes to Class Discussions" means that she is incessantly; "Has Developed the year" means that he is now better than the teacher; "Cooperates fully" means that she copies from child unfortunate enough to sit next to her.

to try it—it's very easy once you've got the nerve. What does "Marked movement in Biology" mean? It's it! No girl is safe within thirty feet, and he has grossly insulted the female staff. "Could try harder?" Bone idle. "Could do better?" Couldn't do much worse. Attendance excellent? Well, this last stronghold of the otherwise hated teacher, and simply means your child is so dull, so unresponsive, so faceless, that he or she has no impression on anybody.

As for my last school report, it said: "With a vivid imagination."

'There it is' is the great American catchphrase of the Vietnam war, a three-word summary of the whole situation . . . The GIs go around saying it all day long

The American novelist, Robert Stone, reports on his recent encounter with the war

LAST MONTH I went to Vietnam and stayed there for a couple of weeks. I went because I was working on a second novel which sought to deal with the condition of American life in 1970 and this condition, as is well known, is pervaded with a consciousness of the Vietnam War. Many Americans have even come to believe that the nature of our society and its impact on the history of this century is being defined in Vietnam. In any case, I felt a certain personal necessity to transform my own awareness of the country and the war from abstract outrage into people and places which I could perceive, however briefly and imperfectly, from one day to the next.

THE PREVIOUS occupant of my Saigon hotel room apparently had a thing about squashing lizards. There must have been nearly a dozen smashed into the walls and the tiles of the floor. Since house lizards are useful insectivores, a cheerful friendly presence in every hot country on earth, it is difficult to understand why anyone should want to massacre them in this fashion. So the vision of my faceless predecessor stalking about his Sydney Greenstreet Colonial hotel room wasting lizards with a framed tin-type of Our Lady of Lourdes (on evidence, the hunter's instrument) is a disturbing one with which to begin the day.

Breakfasting on a croissant and a bottle of soda pop, I contemplate tiny dinosaur corpses and entertain unbidden associations. The first association is a story I have seen told the night before of The Great Elephant Stamp.

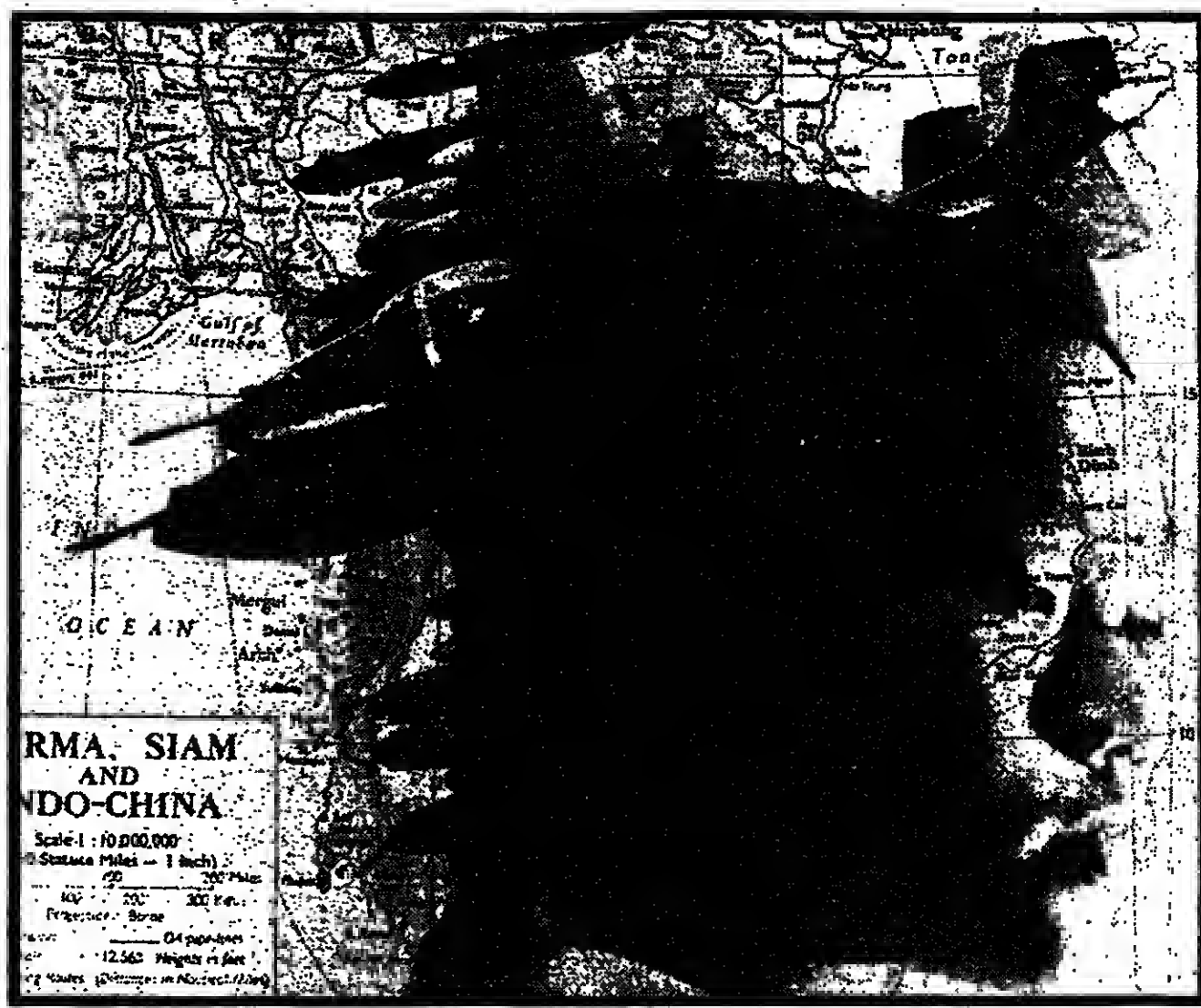
In the hills some time ago, the American military authorities who are carnally perceived in the many faced, many armed deity known as MACV (Military Advisory Command, Vietnam) declared elephants to be enemy agents since they were employed in logistical transport by the NVA and the Front. There ensued what might have been an episode from the Ramayana, in which MACV unleashed enormous deadly flying insects known as choppers to destroy the elephants. Whooping gunners descended on the herds to mow them down with 50 millimetre machine guns, and even my scandalised informant remembers the operation with something like insane exhilaration.

Outside, a man without legs sits on the pavement holding his hat; I throw ten plastic coins to him and he smiles. The legless man and I exchange smiles. I am smiling about what a good guy I am. Who knows why he's smiling?

The legless man is one of the many blown-up people one sees about the city. Some of them have been blown up by MACV and his associates, some by the Front. Some are second-hand enthusiasts of obscure affiliation. Most of the year, tons of "selective ordnance"—weird explosive weaponry out of a comic strip sadist's fantasy—is being directed at the enemy or at those who will do until the enemy comes along. Now the rains have somewhat reduced the traffic in aerial interdiction but people are still being blown up.

At eight o'clock in the morning it is not very hot by the standard of an American summer. On Nguyen Hue there is a flower market stall, and bright with lilies, poinsettias and small oriental roses. I walk through the hot fragrant air to the stall of a mama-san to buy a pack of Winstons and some matches. The cigarettes have no revenue stamp; presumably they were once the property of the US Post Exchange but changed ownership at the dockside or soon after.

I sit looking at my reflection in the take-your-own-picture thing; outside three little boys about eight years old are looking at my watch. In the course of my short walk from the hotel, I have seen several lepers, a number of crippled ARVN soldiers and a beg-



montage by Richard Tice

ging cretin led by an ancient woman, but it still seems to be the lizards that worry me.

Lights flash in my eyes—the carefully whittled outrigger humbird I brought with me seems to have stalled at "Reptiles."

Who was that kill crazy bastard? He left a little hash pipe in the writing drawer. Maybe he freaked out and went berserk. Maybe the lizards kept him awake at night. Maybe he just didn't like them.

The Ministry eventually provides me with a press card and I go to the terrace of the Continental to buy some things, and from the positioning of the principals is known to local Americans as the National Buggy Monument.

There is a blind ARVN soldier led about by a small boy, who sells newspapers every day on the hotel terrace and I have been making it a point to buy my "Saigon Post" from him. Doing so, I am challenged by a correspondent. "He can see as well as you can," says the correspondent.

I say that he looks blind enough to me. "He's got about ten different kids," my acquaintance insists. "He rents them. He's here at the same times every day and every day he's got a fresh ARVN uniform. You know why he's got a fresh ARVN uniform? 'Cause he's in the ARVN—and even the ARVN don't let him be blind."

In the afternoon I take a taxi to Hoa Lu football stadium; it is the day of the Saigon Rock Festival. At Hoa Lu, the infield is crowded with blank-faced mildly curious Vietnamese. Tents have been erected and some of them

raise coloured streamers to the wet limp wind, but the effect is closer to the army of the Potomac by Matthew Brady's Psychedelic City.

On the bandstand an Indonesian group called Exodus is getting badly warped by the acoustics. In the shaded stands a polite crowd of middle-class Vietnamese are drinking lemonade. The ladies of the Corps Diplomatique are present, for the festival is in fact a benefit performance for the maintenance of the widows, orphans and surviving remnants of Lam Son 719, the ARVN's spring offensive into Laos.

In the centre of the stands is a space reserved for Madame Thieu, wife of the President of the Republic. Press people on the field are speculating about whether the President's lady will appear. If she does, the press believe, it will be after CBC have played their set and departed.

CBC is the best of the Vietnamese rock groups which have appeared in the course of this Aquarian Age war. Their style is essentially San Francisco 1967 with echoes of the Grateful Dead.

But rock music is as thoroughly un-Vietnamese as bobbleheads or gang rape (which seems to have been another innovation stimulated by the American presence) and watching CBC one is aware that the process through which a 25-year-old Vietnamese transforms himself into a San Francisco bass player must be extremely dislocating.

Bands of GIs, many of them hopelessly out of uniform in headbands and Japanese beads, wander around checking it all out. "Wow," they're saying. "There it is." They're smoking Park Lane cigarettes which are filtered packaged joints—600 piastres for 20. "There it is" is the great American catchphrase of the war, a three-word summary of the whole situation perceived detail by detail. The GIs go around saying it all day long, since their days consist of a series of unsolicited encounters with the nature of the scene. Dope is so pervasive that the language of the war has become head

shorthand: "There it is" is a phrase to be exchanged by people who are staggering through an interminable bum trip. "It" is the Whole Expedition, the Vietnamese-American encounter, the War—which is also frequently referred to as "this shit."

Two days earlier I went into a bar near Tu Do Street, a bar which had the reputation of serving heroin in beer on request. I thought it sounded pretty improbable but I believe it now. Inside there were about 20 beautiful Vietnamese war girls lined up behind the bar. Since the latest army policy is to keep the numbers of troops in Saigon down to a minimum, business is slow during the day and I was the only customer. Learning on the chromium, facing 20 people on bar stools, I felt like I was the bartender and they had the bottles on the wrong side. The girl opposite me started dealing me a band of cards. The beer had cost about 200P and I didn't want to play cards, so I let them sit there on the wet chrome and smiled knowingly. I didn't feel very knowing, though. Pretty lame. The ladies watched me drink my cold can of Schlitz; there wasn't any heroin in it. I was standing there with a dumb expression and my pockets full of money and there was no way they could get it off me short of turning me upside down and shaking it loose. I think one of the girls started to cry. I downed the last of the beer and looked around; they were really digging my knowing smile. As I put my hand on the door, the girl who had dealt the cards turned to the girl beside her.

"Well," she said. "There it is." In the evening I go out to dinner in company, which is what foreigners do each evening in Saigon. No one talks about anything for very long except the War. We talk about the "contradictions"—like my presence in the country, and the fact that the Saigon war girls seem actually to like Americans in some perverse fashion.

The people I'm with are all serious war reporters who have paid their dues; they laugh a great deal. There is speculation about the number of which general currently controls which article of contraband is raised. A magazine journalist arrives with a depressed Congressman, a rural Republican who refers frequently and respectfully to the President. The journalist has been telling him things which he has not enjoyed hearing and he doesn't like the way conversation at the table is going. He has spent his day having the situation explained to him by official explainers, and though he is not in his element he is not a fool. Someone asks him if he is not afraid of being brainwashed like George Romney. The Congressman looks thoughtful.

"Oh," he says. "Poor George." After dinner instead of going back to the Royal, I go to spend the night in a house not far from the Tonkin Gulf base which is occupied by the Committee of Responsibility. The committee are a handful of young Americans who work with concerned organisations in the US to provide rehabilitation for Vietnamese victims of the war. Hairy and Vietnamese-speaking, they constitute an American Presence of an altogether different sort from MACV but in fact some of them first came to Vietnam in the service.

Among their charges, I meet a little boy named Tho, who is learning some English. He can say "hi" and "far out." He is very fond of Americans and does not altogether realise that some time ago he was shot from the back of his water buffalo by an American in a helicopter. A brigadier-general is currently facing court-martial for allegedly engaging in this heady brand of blood sport. Tho is going to school now and enjoying it very much. His father is somewhere in the Second Corps area, fighting for the Front.

I pass the next few days with COR, and, one afternoon downtown, run into a very knowledgeable lady reporter who asks me if I have heard about the latest explosion. I haven't. She tells me that the Government tax office has been blown up. No one is certain by whom. Perhaps by the Front. Perhaps by an irate taxpayer.

The tax office went off at about 10 o'clock in the evening while Judy and her friend were in a Japanese restaurant a block away eating what one must presume to be the best shrimp tempura outside Yokohama. Tables toppled and people flew. When the dust settled Judy went down to take a look and found the street outside the building in bad shape. The casualties were mainly people who were on the sidewalk outside, for the pavements of central Saigon are crowded every evening with refugees who tend their improvised food stalls and often sleep among them. Six people are dead and it is said that three of them are children.

Some time later it occurs to me that I might go over and check out where the thing has been done. Arriving finally before the wasted building, I find the street lined with barbed wire, the local symbol of security, and guarded by red-bellied Vietnamese marines. Nearby buildings have their windows broken and there are still a few shards of disfigure and the odd spoon lying around among the chips of concrete. The street seems to smell of chloroform. Here and there are sprinklings of dried white powder that someone says is chloride of lime and on one wall a brown smear that appears to be a washed-over bloodstain.

There it is. A marginal incident represented by a day-old bloodstain. I stand in the street, getting in the way of pedestrians, and the thoughtful tourist trying to draw a moral. But there isn't any moral, it makes no sense at all. It reminds me of the lizards smashed on the hotel wall.

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His Gimblett eyes enable him to Watchet

Terry Coleman interviews Harold Gimblett



ONCE UPON A TIME, not so long ago, there was a young man called Harold who was going to be a farmer, and he played cricket for the village team of Watchet in Somerset. Early in May, Somerset asked him to come in the county team at Taunton, and he did, but after two weeks they said they boped he had enjoyed himself but he wasn't what they were looking for, and they gave him 35 shillings for expenses. But then they had only ten men for the next match, against Essex, so they asked him to play in that before he went home, and he did, and he went in number eight and bit the fast bowlers back over their heads and over the sight-screen and made a century in his first innings in first-class cricket.

Then they asked him to stay, and to give him a place in the team for the next matches it was necessary for one of the county amateurs to produce a match at short notice, or so they said. "Punch" printed a little verse about him, asking how was it that this country youth could whack the bowling all over the field, and giving the answer in the last two lines, which went like this:

Elementary is the truth,
His Gimblett eyes enable him to Watchet.

The cricketer's name of course was Gimblett, Harold Gimblett, and it is not a story out of the "Wizard." It is a fact.

If it had been, the "Wizard" would not have been too fantastic, and would not have expected its readers to believe that the hero's next innings that season of 1936 were 8, 22, 2, 0, 4, 8, 11, 26, 7, 22 not out, 30, 18, and 0. But they were, and those scores after probably the fastest maiden innings ever played in first-class cricket are practically the story of Gimblett's life.

Cricket is a game which cherishes the players who do great feats. Those players are remembered who have memorable things and this has very little to do with consistency of performance. Learie Constantine was remembered, though you could easily find a dozen all-rounders with far and away better figures. Barrington accumulated and accumulated and accumulated, but it is difficult to remember any one thing he did. Gimblett is one of the lucky, memorable players. He

retired from the first-class game 17 years ago, but he still coaches at Millfield School, and adjudicates in Gillette Cup matches. I met him on a match day at Bristol, in the pavilion, and we talked about ambition, near-greatness, breakdown, and today and tomorrow.

"It's a puzzle," he says, remembering his maiden innings. After his first season he spent the whole winter analysing that innings and those that followed it, trying to find why things happened as they did. He had ended the season as low down as number nine, but the next year they put him in to open, he made three centuries in two weeks, and was picked to open for England against India.

Up to that season he had rarely played against the new ball, and against incoming bowling, in Amar Singh, India had a very good inswinger. In his first Test innings he scraped into double figures and then was glad to get out. I think he said it was the first time he had been at Lord's. Afterwards, by the Tiverton, he met Jack Hobbins, who demonstrated with his umbrella. In the second innings he made 60-odd and remembers that he gave Mr Amar Singh the thump. He played in one more Test that year, but he was sure he was ready, and he had played in one Test, which as it happened was his last, and then the war came.

This was the first great disappointment of his career—that by 1939, when he felt that he was ready and had arrived, the war came and took away six years. He feels, too, that he was sheltered during the war. He wanted to go into the RAF, but a flippant interview with a recruiting officer put paid to that.

With his quickness of reflexes, said the recruiting officer, did he think he would make a good fighter pilot?—"I can't stand going too fast," said Gimblett.

Well, then, a bomber pilot?—"I can't see at night. As blind as a bat."

A rear gunner?—"Can't stand travelling with my back to the engine."

He was posted to the fire service, and was at the bombing of Exeter, Southampton, Plymouth, and Bristol. One Good Friday night at Bristol, five of his crew of seven were killed.

After the war, he did want to go to Australia in 1946-7 with the MCC team and tried desperately hard to make it. In the English season of 1948, at Bristol, he made 132 against Gloucestershire with Wally Hammond, the England captain, in the field watching him. Every time he made another ten runs he said to himself "Gangplank down," but by the end of the season he was pretty sure he was not in the party. "I asked if he was available," the England captain, in the field watching him. He believes he was seventeenth on the list, and they took 16. In 1939 he had in fact been picked for a tour of India, but that was cancelled because of the war.

Obviously he regrets that he only played three Tests but he doesn't pine over it, and says straight out that there were better opening batsmen playing at the same time, like Hutton and Washbrook. He seems to feel this is part of the history of the game, and asks how many Test Holmes and Sandham played while Hobbs and Sutcliffe were around.

Anyway, Test matches were not one of the ambitions he made for himself. He had three, and realised two of them. There were to make 50 centuries, which he did, to make the highest score for Somerset, which he did with 310 against Sussex in 1948, though he does not consider it one of his best innings; and to make 30,000 runs in his career, which he failed to achieve. He made 21,000, and hit 283 sixes. He doesn't know if that is a record number of sixes for an opening batsman, but bopes it is.

In 1954, at the age of 40, he retired from first-class cricket, having had a nervous breakdown. Whether it was because of cricket, he says, he will never know. The psychiatrists never could find a reason.

So off he went. He had a benefit of £3,500, so he was not poor. He does not know what it was, but for the moment he could not face cricket any more. He went to Ebbw Vale to work in a steel mill, then he farmed in Aberystwyth and that gave him back his health. He was up at quarter to five every morning, doing a man's job all day, and at night he was too tired to think about himself or do anything but sleep.

But the urge to be a farmer went,

and one day he was in Trafalgar Square reading an afternoon paper when he saw the cricket coach at Millfield was retiring. The headmaster there, R. J. O. Meyer, was himself an old Somerset player, so Gimblett wrote asking if Meyer had thought of a successor. He has coached there ever since, teaching, as he says, only a limited amount of defence, and mostly how to get to the ball and hit it straight. So, when he was playing he was a household name. Was it a wrench to leave Somerset, then, and no longer have such a name? He said, "I still am greeted in the street by the era who knew me. We've got older together. They're almost dying out now. I can walk down a street in Taunton now and nobody knows me. . . . This is it—today, tomorrow. We're forgotten. Ask anybody in the street to name half a dozen of the Somerset side after the war, and most of them have got to struggle. Household names."

But himself, he was thankful for all that had come to him from cricket. He had come to Bristol that morning and walked into the pavilion to be greeted by the Duke of Beaufort, who said: "Hello Harold."

"Now then," said Mr Gimblett, "if I hadn't played cricket I should never have met him and he wouldn't know me from Adam. He's a peer of the realm and can call me Harold. And I haven't seen the bloke for 20 years."

Bristol is as full of ghosts as any cricket ground, and it has two very great ones, Grace and Jessop. On the ground they still sell Grace mugs and Jessop ties. Gimblett came to first-class cricket as an innocent, as the young man from Watchet who had barely ever faced a new ball, and had never heard of Wisden or played an inswinger; but when he had played at Bristol had been conscious of the great men who had played there before him.

"Yes," he said, in the Somerset voice of the boy from Watchet, "yes. And I would dearly have loved to be a way, so to say, to join that happy band, which didn't quite. . . . I got up there but. . . . I always think there is a hand above for the great. I didn't get up on that I could look over the top once or twice, but not join them."

GETTING THE BUGS OUT

gardening by John Slee

MOST MODERN INSECTICIDES are indiscriminate: they kill not only garden pests but also the insects and parasites which benefit the gardener by preying upon these same pests. There are, it is true, a few old-fashioned substances which are less lethal to the gardener's friends, but they are also less effective in killing off his enemies. This problem has long exercised the entomologists of the Royal Horticultural Society. They succeeded as long ago as 1915 in largely controlling white fly in glasshouses by breeding and introducing the parasitic wasp, Encarsia. Its use was discontinued when DDT and the newer insecticides appeared on the scene. In my own greenhouse in the 1940s I used Encarsia with considerable effect on pear-scales, fuchsia, and cinerarias, and it can still be obtained from Wisley by Fellows of the RHS. It does not, however, entirely eradicate the pest.

This, of course, is true of any purely biological control. This is why Wisley entomologists like Mr K. M. Harris decided to investigate a system of integrated chemical and biological control. Their experiments, extending from 1960 onwards, have shown that it can be effective against red-spotted mites in greenhouses and in sunny places outdoors.

The technique is not simple, but it is worthy of trial by the amateur—especially as Fellows of the Society can now obtain the predator from Wisley and non-Fellows can buy it from the Hertford, Herts, from whom further information should also be sought as to its application.

The object of the trials was to see whether chemical control of pests like red spider, capid bugs, aphids, and earwigs could be partially replaced by non-chemical methods. Mr Harris emphasises that this dual system of pest management requires "a proper understanding of the biology of the pests and of the complicated interactions between them and their environment. The main object is to get the maximum benefit from predators, parasites and diseases which exert some degree of natural control on pest populations. This means that the use of chemicals must be restricted, and when they are used they must be selected carefully and wisely."

The least expected summit

President Nixon's announcement that he is to visit China has taken the world by surprise. Even the most avid omen-sifters had failed to spot this event coming. But the secrecy and intrigue that surrounds the way the visit was arranged is as nothing beside its tremendous symbolic potential. The two Powers whose public polemics were frozen for two decades into rigid hostility have agreed to shake hands. And the change has not come because the personalities at the top are different. President Nixon is identified more than most other living American politicians with the smears against the Democrats for "losing China." Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai have been at the centre of Chinese affairs throughout the period of bitter attacks on "US imperialism and its running dogs," and on the Soviet Union for agreeing to peaceful coexistence with this monster.

What does this sudden and public eating of words mean in private? What secret negotiations went on before the announcement of the President's visit? Inevitably the news arouses more questions than it answers. The fact that a deadline has been set for the visit suggests that private assurances have been given which must now be delivered in reality before the visit goes ahead.

On China's admission to the United Nations, for example, has the United States promised to drop its "two-China" formula and accept Communist China as the only representative of the Chinese people? Could the United States have agreed (as at least one of Mr Nixon's Democratic presidential opponents has recommended it should) to withdraw its forces from Taiwan? In the past the Chinese have always split the Taiwan issue into two. The question of the American military presence there has been for them a greater irritant than the issue of the island's sovereignty as such. Would President Nixon really have the courage to make so bold a step as to withdraw forces in spite of the possible backlash from Taiwan's friends in the United States? Mr Nixon's phrase about not letting "old friends" down is clearly meant to mollify Taiwan. And yet the Formosan response is angry and hurt already. Something is brewing.

What, then, of Vietnam? If Taiwan complains of no consultation over Mr Nixon's invitation, has Hanoi perhaps the same complaints for the Chinese? At the Geneva conference on Indo-China in 1954, the North Vietnamese were reported to be upset and angry that the Chinese persuaded them to pull back to the 17th Parallel and accept partition. Now suddenly after years of

opposition to the idea the Chinese told Mr Gough Whitlam, the Australian Opposition Leader, last week that they are ready for another Indo-China conference. Is history to repeat itself?

Certainly there has been a marked shift in the Chinese position on Vietnam. Yet it seems more likely that Peking has come to the conclusion that "Vietnamisation" has reached a point of no return, and that the Americans are really going. Has Mr Nixon given an assurance that all American troops will be withdrawn by a specific date (as the Senate is urging him), possibly even by May 1972? Whether he has or not, the Chinese probably calculate that the prospect of his visit must hasten American withdrawal. Just as Hanoi has been able to benefit from the rising American domestic opposition to the war, so now Peking's dramatic invitation is bound to strengthen the voices for peace within America. To an extent the President has now put himself on probation. He will not want to risk the fiasco of President Eisenhower's proposed visit to Moscow which collapsed in ruins over the U-2 affair.

President Nixon stands to gain immensely from the visit. The electoral dividend to him in 1972 cannot be overlooked. But on a wider plane the Americans now have the chance to bring the Chinese back into the world arena and end the absurd fiction that 750 million people do not exist. Peaceful coexistence will allow normal trading and other relationships to develop. The lead which the Canadians, the Japanese, and Western Europe already have in dealings with China can now perhaps be won back.

One principal uncertainty in the situation is the attitude which the Russians will take. The President was right to stress that this new move is not directed at Moscow. Undoubtedly, Moscow will be tempted to see it partly that way. This will not make things easier for its East European neighbours who always suffer when the Kremlin becomes jittery. All the more reason then for the Americans to press ahead warmly with the SALT meetings and show that their attempts at détente with the Soviet Union also mean business.

Whatever Moscow's reaction, the world as a whole can still welcome the news. For two of the nations that have been so suspicious before to talk to each other now must strengthen the will to peace. Summit diplomacy in this generation has not always been successful. It has led to disappointment as well as hope. Face-to-face meetings can only do so much in adjusting the trend of events. But they can play a rôle, and they need to be fostered for that.

No Opposition in Stormont

The six Opposition MPs who have walked out of Stormont have raised an important issue but have done so in a clumsy way. The issue is whether or not the Army should be judge and jury in its own cause. The way in which the MPs have raised it is by depriving a Parliament of its Opposition so that it is no longer a proper deliberative assembly. The issue ought to come first. British soldiers killed two men in Londonderry because, the Army said, the men were carrying weapons and threatening the peace. Others said that the men were carrying sticks not weapons, or that they were carrying nothing at all. Either way two men died in a situation of public disorder and the evidence is in dispute. The Stormont Opposition demanded a special inquiry. The Army, through the Stormont Government, refused. Two British soldiers were then shot dead in Belfast.

Perhaps the Army should have agreed to an inquiry this time. There are four men dead, not two. The soldiers who died in Belfast were killed for political reasons. The men who died in Londonderry will be seen to have died for political reasons too. The Stormont Opposition was bound to react. Whether they have reacted wisely is another matter. On the democratic face of things

the departure of six out of seven Opposition MPs means the end of parliamentary government in Northern Ireland. On the other hand Stormont is a Parliament out of which MPs often walk. Yesterday's walkout is not the first, may not be the last, and is in one sense irrelevant because the House has already adjourned until October. For the time being the six MPs can only make a gesture. It is true that they could amplify it by establishing an unrecognised and partial Parliament of their own. But their walkout has no practical constitutional meaning until the House reassembles in the autumn.

If they are still absent then the IRA extremists will have moved further towards their immediate aim which is to discredit the Northern Ireland Government and force the British to rule directly. It is important, therefore, that the absent MPs should return, and also that Mr Maudling, Lord Carrington, and the Army should weigh carefully the consequences of refusing an inquiry. Stormont, with its permanent Unionist majority, is not a real parliament in the Westminster sense. But it is still Northern Ireland's supreme forum and the place where the minority can speak most loudly. It is in Britain's interests to get the MPs back and keep Stormont credible.

A little feminine enterprise

To keep in the vanguard of women's lib today a girl has to be quite remarkably inventive. It is worth noting that such girls are still around and active. In Sardinia, for instance—a place not much associated with liberated women—a housewife took a firm step in the right direction by locking her husband in a chastity belt whenever he left the house. It was, she said, to stop him getting lewd ideas about other women; or anyway to stop him putting those ideas into practice. The husband complained, understandably, of embarrassment. He felt such a fool, he said, as he was clanked noisily about the streets. Worse, his wife accused him of being impotent, as well he might be, thus encumbered. A merciful judge ordered his release from these fetters but nevertheless the point had been made and, we may be sure, duly noted that what is sauce for the goose goes very nicely with the gander, too.

Yet for the most dramatic example of the

new woman we must look to Sicily where, it has been revealed or at least alleged, the gym mistress of a convent school has become the first woman boss in Mafia history. Great heavens, is nothing sacred? Frails muscling in on the mob yet, bringing with them no doubt their implacable domestic touch, dusting and polishing probably between heists, converting the whole operation into a kind of *Cosy Nostra*. The prospect is enough to cause veteran mafiosi to weep into their hootle hooch and confide, brokenly, to each other that the world has grown so bad that wrens do prey where eagles fear to perch.

To outsiders, however, the lady's achievement is a splendid example of feminine enterprise. Hollywood will certainly welcome it. A whole New Wave of gangster movies will probably burst upon us—Scarface Alice Capone, perhaps, or "The Rise and Fall of Lucy Luciano." And all thanks, in a way, to women's lib.

A COUNTRY DIARY

MACHYNLETH: This year there has been an impressive increase in our local heronry. Counting their tree-top nests in May we found a gain of 60 per cent over 1970. By mid-June young herons were daily pouring out of the trees to make their maiden flights down the estuary. And now the last ones are about to go. As we pass by we see them standing tall on their long legs, that look so awkward for tree-top life. They take little heed of us. Instead they gaze away to the distant hills as if lost in thought. Through a telescope we can bring them very close, and can look right into their strange staring eyes, and ask ourselves what sort of thought goes on in the brain behind. Presumably very little. Herons I dare say are still chewing over the thoughts that first struck them in the Pleistocene age. Not that they are the worse off for that. By some freak of evolution man may have thought to think a few new thoughts since the Pleistocene, but is he or the world any better off because of it? Herons may not have much brain in their thin heads, but at least their life is totally sane and robust. They may increase now and then but it is never for long. The next hard winter will cut them down to size and there is no danger they can ever infest the earth. A pity we cannot make the same claim for ourselves.

WILLIAM CONDRY.

WHEN I left Wesley College, Headingley, 30 years ago to begin work as a pastor, I rapidly discovered that an expansive theological education had provided me with a set of answers to questions which nobody was asking. This was most obvious when I was consulted about sexual behaviour. Reflecting upon the meagre pastoralia content of the college course, I realised that it had proceeded on the assumption that Christians were disembodied spirits.

As I came to be trusted with more confidences (none of which I shall break but only write in the most general terms) I understood the frightful dilemma that was created by the church's attitude to sex. Many Christians, I discovered, lived, unhappily, double lives: there is far more "sexual deviance" of all kinds among members of Christian congregations than anybody supposes.

Others tried to live by the impossible standards of religiosity—treating the moral absolutes proclaimed from the pulpit as possibilities for daily conduct: they "broke down" occasionally and suffered agonies of guilt and remorse—or they had serious breakdowns or they succeeded in dehumanising themselves.

Admittedly, there have been changes in attitudes since my early days: there is a new atmosphere of sexual permissiveness in the Church today, though whether this is a surrender to the fashion of our time or a positive grasp of the Christian ethic, I take leave to doubt.

And the change is more conspicuous in the national press than in the life of the local church, where we do not always find an acceptance of the view that many sexual practices may be private but not dirty. Christian education is still liable, for example, to produce the impotent male who cannot play the masculine rôle because he thinks it is unworthy and unspiritual.

But changes there have been. Few young ministers today are furtive or silent about sexuality. A middle-aged cleric recently said to a group of lay people: "Temperamentally, I would have been best suited to life in a monastery with a twice-weekly amorous visit to a nearby nunnery." No body raised an eyebrow.

For older people, however, the change has come too late. The reminder of me of senior industrial workers I knew in the Potteries during the years 1950-4—incurable victims of silicosis themselves, they

'Many of the Lord's people could have a lot more fun with an easy conscience ...'

Sex and the puzzled pastor



By the Rev. Fred Milson, a leading Methodist theologian, and head of Westhill College of Education.

watched a new generation of workers being protected against the disease by fresh devices attached to the work benches.

Similarly, the new Christian attitudes to sex cannot rescue a generation which was brought up on the assumption that sexual activity is either for procreation or a concession to the flesh since what is pleasurable must be wrong.

But to return to my first days in the pastorate. Necessity was laid upon me to provide an answer: I could not continue in a situation where what I was thought to represent caused so much misery: and I could not go on looking in to those demure "Sunday" faces knowing the agony which often lay behind them.

My first discovery was interesting. The "sex" is unworthy, even dirty" brigade were heretics—Gnostics or followers of Nani. The Bible, in fact, is an earthy book, frankly accepting man's emotional nature. In spite of a few passages capable of another interpretation, its underlying message on this subject is a shout of joy—"God for the body and body for God."

If that is not so, however did

the "Song of Songs" come to find its way into the Canon? The Biblical derivative for masturbation is Onanism from Onan who poured out his seed on the ground, but I guess he was being condemned for not adding to the Israelite population.

Armed with this conviction about the Biblical insight, I began to look afresh at my pastoral task in a fellowship, not of saints, but fallible creatures of flesh and blood. Confidence came with experience, and I often heard myself using phrases which sounded strange to my hearers from the lips of a pastor.

"But God likes sexy people." "In most marriages there is probably too little physical love-making rather than too much."

[I usually said these things in the "confessional" rather than in public, where I contented myself with more general statements: this simply because, in my experience, sex education is the subject above all others where half-truths are dangerous: it is easier to estimate the danger in private interviews.]

Over 20 years as a pastor drove me to certain conclusions which I am sure would not be shared by all my fellow-Christians.

The Church has rarely had an honest sex ethic: mostly it has encouraged men and women to try to be, in this respect, "more spiritually-minded than God intended them to be." This monumental misunderstanding of one of the major moral influences of history: its failure to help millions of human beings to accept their sexuality as a source of happiness and fulfilment—all this is a tragic fact.

Many of the Lord's people could have a lot more fun with an easy conscience. They do not always realise, for example, that there are many different forms of sexual activity, legitimate if acceptable in both partners in a permanent love relationship; that marriage in one aspect is licensed childlessness; that many contrasting and competing parts of our personality can find expression. A good wife, for example, may also be mistress, mother and daughter.

The lifelong love-seekers without foolish inhibitions often realise that neither of them is 100 per cent male or female. In many marriage beds there are in a sense four people, the added two being the masculinity of the wife and femininity of the husband. All four may find fulfilment. "Male and female created he them," says the Bible: my pastoral experience suggested to me that God partly confused the raw materials.

Masturbation must be seen by all, but especially the unmarried, as a morally neutral act. It is better to eat in company but better to eat alone than starve. The only wrong in masturbation is when it is a symptom of a general inability to make relationships with others.

None of this is to be interpreted as meaning that there are no longer distinctive Christian sex standards: or that the churches should go along completely with the sexual permissiveness of our age—itsself probably a sign of repression and failure to accept ourselves.

To the Christian this generation may well appear to have sex on the brain which, as somebody has said, is a bad place to have it anyway. For him sex does not take place between a penis and a vagina but between two human beings who are in his view children of God.

Sex is very important, but in the last resort it is not the most important experience in life and you can only get the most out of it if something else matters more to you. But Christians cannot begin to say these things to their contemporaries until they have themselves taken seriously the Bible and human nature.

Calling the tune

Sir,—Mr Kitson's quoted remarks to the IGWU Conference regarding the position of union-sponsored MPs (specifically in connection with the Common Market issue) once more call into question the whole principle of such sponsoring.

I wonder if the voters who returned these members to Parliament agree with Mr Kitson's contention that they are there to represent the views of his union.

One hopes that the MPs involved will publicly reject such attempted direction. If they do not, the remedy lies in the hands of their constituents at the next Parliamentary election.—Yours sincerely,

P. Worthington,
11 Queen's Drive,
Cottingham,
East Yorkshire.

Also sprach Heath

Sir,—You report (Guardian, July 13) that Mr Heath spoke of his vision "of a Europe once united—nearly 1,200 years ago—and that together that Europe will once again come."

On May 19 he said that the Common Market would achieve by other means what Napoleon and Hitler failed to achieve. Our Prime Minister surpasses de Gaulle in his visions, who only thought he was Saint Joan of Arc, for Heath appears to think he is a mixture of Charlemagne, Napoleon and Hitler.—Yours faithfully,

G. J. A. Stern,
6 Eton Court,
Shepherds Hill,
Highgate,
London N6 5AF.

Tea party time?

Sir,—Mr Rippon has apparently discovered the importance of the Shetland fisheries: the Dutch know this in Cromwell's day.

Yet according to the maps on the posters imploring citizens to use the "fishboats" on Britain and Europe, neither Shetland nor Orkney exist. "No taxation without representation" comes to mind.

John B. L. Lawrenson,
35 Wennington Road,
Rainham,
Essex.

Fend off doom with the European Conservation Community

Sir,—It is tragic that ecology and economics, so close in the dictionary, are so far apart in the minds of governments. The White Paper is obsessed with economic growth, industrial expansion, technological exploitation, agricultural subsidies, butter, sugar, lamb—but there is not a bleat about population control, pollution, or the future availability of natural resources.

Paragraph 1 tells us that "the prime objective of any British Government must be to safeguard the security and prosperity of the United Kingdom and its peoples." Of course—but does this refer to

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The irrevocable EEC decision

Sir,—If Ian Aitken's (presumably second-hand) account of Wednesday's meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party is accurate, then Mr David Marquand unintentionally put his finger on the vital difference between the decision to be taken about UK membership of the European Community and any other question that Parliament has ever been asked to face. Mr Marquand is reported as having attacked those anti-Marketisers who were citing public opinion as an argument against entry into Europe, because they had not reacted in the same way to public support of the Labour Government's proposed anti-strike legislation.

But public opinion itself did react on that issue in last year's general election, and a new set of anti-strike proposals is now almost on the statute book as a direct result of that reaction. That is the way in which British parliamentary democracy normally works.

But it cannot react in the same way over the proposal to

join the European Community, because a decision to do so will be irrevocable in law (as no previous decision ever has been), and after a very short time will be irrevocable in fact, because of the intolerable cost of any sudden break with the new patterns of trade that inevitably result from membership of the Community. (After 12 years, more than half the trade of Community members is now with each other.)

It is this difference that makes public opinion so supremely important in this case. It is impossible that Mr Marquand, or any other omnibulleted Marketeer, will be willing to reflect on the logical outcome of his own argument, but some of your readers will see the point.—Yours faithfully,

William Pickles,
Reader in Political Science
in the University of London.
The London School of
Economics and
Political Science,
Houghton Street,
Aldwych,
London WC2.

Found: Britain's Pentagon Papers

Sir,—In one sentence (Guardian, July 13) Michael Lake has "blown the past" in the Common Market. That same sentence changed my support into opposition—and that is after 30 years campaigning for a Federal Europe from the time I read Clarence Strait's book, "Federal Union." I never went so far as the Crusade for World Government, though I had long been associated with Henry Osborne's campaign in its predecessor Federal Union.

Lake wrote: "The British, who like the French and Dutch want a six-mile limit to enable their trawlers to penetrate the rich 12-mile waters off Norway, are nevertheless worried that if Norway stays out of the EEC she may drift towards a Swedish type of neutralism, and even leave NATO."

So, despite all the economic and political arguments, the truth is out—the British Government aims to use entry to EEC as a means to bolster the militarists. I had thought perhaps naively, that NATO would withdraw away with our entry into EEC, particularly in view of the French attitude.

It seems Michael Lake has discovered Britain's Pentagon Papers.

The whole argument of Clarence Strait's book was that all Europe's wars had been generated by the militarists, despite the politicians. It appears the policy now is to create a bigger military organisation to fight even bigger wars.

—J. Noel Winword,
Rainham,
Kent.

Super-price?

Sir,—Taking our rightful place in the world, as Heath puts it, means clobbering together with France and Germany so as to be able to stand up to the super-powers. Standing up to the super-powers means, if the past is any guide, fighting a Vietnam every ten years or so against whichever super-powers happens to offend us intolerably.

So far, since 1945, we have done a Sweden: we have more or less let it out. We know the price paid by those who take part in these particular Olympics. Oughtn't we to add this item to the costs of entry into the Common Market?—Yours faithfully,

A. R. Bridbury,
Winter Street,
South Park Drive,
Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire.

Silent Labour

Sir,—Mr Jim Callaghan put the matter in a nutshell when he told the electors in the Southampton by-election on May 25: "On an issue as important as this the British Labour Party, therefore, needs to have a mind of its own. The people of Britain are entitled to know where we stand," then, when fear the conference taking a vote risk gagging the Labour Party and denying it an official policy until it is too late.

During the next three months we shall be subjected to the highest brainwashing operation since Munich.

Edward Heath will have a policy and constantly propagate it. The Conservative Party will have a policy. So will the Daily Mirror, and the CBL are we to accept that in this great national debate everyone will have a voice except the Labour Party?

The Conference is the first real opportunity for ordinary British people to thrash the matter out and make their views heard. Let the Labour Party and its voice speak up for the nation: it will find a response as never before.—Yours sincerely,

Ron Leighton,
(Director),
Common Market Safeguards
Campaign,
Hullbridge,
Essex.

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BUSINESS GUARDIAN

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Edited by Anthony Harris and Charles Raw

THE unprecedented initiative taken by the Confederation of British Industry in proposing price restraint — one of the best kept secrets of the year — could alter the constitutional significance of the CBI.

Since its birth in 1964 the CBI has been struggling to evolve from being merely a pressure group to becoming an outward-looking organisation taken seriously by governments and directly involved in the governing of the country.

Under the Labour Government the CBI achieved consultation by the Government on major issues and, under the Conservatives, this has been enshrined in certain legislation cases.

Under Mr W. D. Campbell Adamson, who succeeded John Davies as director-general, the CBI has moved nearer to maturity in a number of ways.

Its budget proposals have changed from a catalogue of tax concessions for the rich to something nearer a proper budget.

As the base of its membership has widened to take in nationalised industries, the confederation has progressively ceased to be the voice of the private sector alone.

Recently Mr Adamson spoke of defending nationalised industries against Government policies — which would have been almost sacrilege to the CBI "backwoodsmen" a few years ago.

When Campbell Adamson,

CBI is bridging gap to statesmanship

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

a former industrial adviser to the Labour Government, was appointed to the CBI, cynics said that he was too nice a person to lead Britain's businessmen.

In fact he has confounded his critics by winning a wide measure of support, and is now poised to exert a control over the CBI members (through "monitoring" price increases above 5 per cent) which was rejected as impossible a few years ago.

Its widened base enabled

the CBI to approach leading retailers and department stores from a position of strength, and make them part of the package it is offering to the Government and the TUC. Unions and the CBI have been shadow-boxing over the possibility of introducing a voluntary price and incomes policy for some months, with each accusing the other of not being serious.

Early in June CBI leaders became increasingly convinced of the need to take the initiative. With retail prices rising almost as fast as wages, conditions were favourable for companies accepting restraint without too serious an effect on liquidity.

The possibility of the unions basing their next round of pay claims on prices rising at 10 per cent hardly bore thinking about.

Senior ministers were

sounded out on their reaction to a possible offer by the CBI to restrain prices. At this stage the Treasury was reviewing the prospects for the economy to see if further restraint was required. As the review neared completion the Government raised no objections — implying that restraint was in the air.

On July 5, two days before the last meeting of the National Economic Development Council, the chairman of 50 leading companies met in high secrecy at the CBI headquarters in London and broadly approved the plan.

A few days later leaders of nationalised industries includ-

ing Derek Ezra (Coal Board), Lord Melchett (Steel), and Richard Marsh (British Rail) gave their approval, though it was pointed out that in some cases this would depend on satisfactory financial arrangements being negotiated with the Government where losses were being incurred.

The NEDC meeting ended with a broad area of agreement between unions and business representatives, though there was no inkling at this stage that the CBI was cooking up its scheme. Since then the CBI has been taking soundings among its regional councils and retailing and department store groups.

The TUC was officially informed on Thursday, only a few hours before the CBI's main council gave its approval.

There are still formidable obstacles to be overcome — not least yesterday's statement by food manufacturers that they are unable to join.

More pertinent, it is still an open question whether the unions will be prepared to co-operate on terms which the CBI would regard as acceptable.

Reflation will probably be accompanied by a sharp burst of productivity and there is bound to be a heated debate about who should get the benefit of that.

Nevertheless the CBI initiative could herald a new era in its development. Enlightened self-interest may lie at the heart of it, but that should not obscure the achievement.

GEC—silent outsider

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, Britain's biggest electrical group, declined to join the CBI's proposals to limit price increases to a maximum of 5 per cent a year.

GEC is the biggest company in Britain which is not a member of the CBI. Many attempts have been made to

get Sir Arnold Weinstock to join but so far without success.

A spokesman for the group said yesterday that the company could not give a snap judgment since there would have to be consultations with member companies. He added that the group had not been approached by the CBI to join the scheme.

Germans push down dollar

In another hectic day in the gold and currency markets, the dollar moved steadily down to close at a new low of Dm3.4740 while the gold price rose to 45 cents, so that the final rate was \$40.90 an ounce.

Most dealers suggested that this dramatic increase was due to the general nervousness in the currency markets which had led to sustained Continental buying.

Some worry probably came from uncertainty about the Bundesbank's tactics. Yesterday it was selling its dollars as the rate fell, so that the final price was 80 points down on Thursday's close.

Estimates of the sums involved ranged from "a little over \$10 millions" to "around the \$100 millions mark." There now seem to be three schools of thought on the Bundesbank's motives.

The first suggests that the German authorities have decided to revalue sooner rather than later, while hoping that all the predictions that the mark will float until after the International Monetary Fund meeting in September will keep the market unresponsive.

Thus the Bundesbank's tactics in selling dollars are designed to push the rate to roughly where they want to fix the new

party according to this group. Some people believe that with the dollar now 5.35 per cent off its old parity, there could be some action this weekend, but the whole theory is very much a minority view.

The second school argues that the sales are due to a secret agreement reached at the meeting between President Pompidou and Chancellor Brandt. The scenario is that the French would add to their reserves as the German stock of dollars declined, so that eventually the Common Market as a whole would float against the dollar—as the Germans are said to want.

The payoff for the French would be that the Germans accept a new parity for the D-Mark in terms of the Common Market's other currencies. Though French and German authorities have been anxiously denying the story, the more they do so, the less dealers believe them.

Many dealers believe that exactly the opposite has happened and see the Bundesbank as putting crude pressure on the French. They say that the Germans hope that the inflow of dollars into Paris, set off by their sales, will force the Government to float or revalue the franc.

Bovril bid too casual?

Cavenham Foods' sedate handling of its planned takeover of Bovril could prove to be an important tactical error. The takeover document was finally released yesterday—three weeks after Cavenham gave notice of intention to bid—and the Bovril share price immediately moved back above the level of Cavenham's offer.

The document is a low-key affair and the market took the view that Cavenham would probably pay more in order to get an agreed bid. This interpretation might not be far off the mark given that Bovril has had three weeks in which to master a defence, but the question of a counter-bidder might be of more significance.

Imperial Tobacco, notwithstanding the problems in its existing food operations, is high on the list of possible bidders. The list also extends to US food companies, including General Foods, but whatever the possibilities, Bovril has been looked at in death by so many prospective bidders that Cavenham's three-week lull has given everybody a chance to blow the dust off their files.

Meanwhile, Bovril shares raced up 12p to 335p in after-hours dealings last night. This compares with Cavenham's offer of around 326p a share, and the cash alternative of 310p.

The statement in Cavenham's document urging Bovril shareholders to accept the bid is brief and lacks comprehensive argument. Cavenham points out that Bovril "appears to be finding difficulty in breaking into new fields" and under a wider European base there would be a "more competitive international outlook in marketing." It is thought that Cavenham has had only one meeting with the Bovril board, and has had no indication of their view on the offer.

In support of the document, Cavenham has issued its 1970-71 annual report, which is generally hush-hush of prospects for the current year.

Atom pact 'conflict'

The Italian Budget Ministry yesterday published an official note saying that Wednesday's pact on nuclear development between ACP Nuclear and four major European concerns—including Britain's Nuclear Power Group—might conflict with the Government's industrialisation plans.

AGIP Nucleare is a subsidiary of ENI, the State hydrocarbons group. The Ministry memorandum said that terms of the accord might conflict with directives issued by the Interministerial Planning Commission in August 1968 and earlier this month in connection with a study of problems in the Italian nuclear industry.

General Electric of Britain has failed in an attempt to take over the 49 per cent it does not already own of First Electric Corporation of South Africa. It did not achieve the necessary 75 per cent majority for its

Venesta profits crash to £2M

Profits of Venesta, the plywood group, slumped in the second half of last year and the chairman, Mr Ronald Plumley, now contradicts his earlier forecast of a significant improvement in earnings during the current year and says the group's recovery plans are "inevitably retarded".

The results show profits down from £1.3 millions to just £551,000 for the year ended

March 31. The group has written off rationalisation and reorganisation costs worth £225,000 after tax. Overall £557,000 has had to be transferred from reserves to balance the profit and loss account.

There is no final dividend leaving a single interim payment of 2½ pence against 7½ pence last year.

Mr Plumley blames the bad results on abnormally poor trading conditions in the construction material business at home and abroad. This is in contrast to other suppliers who have recently reported higher profits.

The group's shares lost a further 3p in after-hours dealing to end the day at 22p.

EEC grain 'record'

The Common Market expects a near record cereal harvest of 70 million tonnes this year, the Commission's statistics show for 1971.

The improved harvest would come at a time when surplus stocks, especially of wheat, are being worked down

March on sales which increased by 7 per cent at £39 millions. However, after a disappointingly high tax charge (since losses by UK subsidiaries could not be set against overseas profits) attributable profit works out at just £19,000.

However, the group has written off rationalisation and reorganisation costs worth £225,000 after tax. Overall £557,000 has had to be transferred from reserves to balance the profit and loss account.

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ICC plunges from 60p to 23p

Industrial Contract Cleaners has run into serious problems. Trading collapsed in the second half of last year and overall the group has made a pre-tax profit of £44,000 for the year to January compared with a £213,000 for the previous 16 months.

The results certainly look sick against the profits forecast of "not less than £214,000" by chairman Mr Eric Wilson, in his last annual report, and two subsequent confirmations of higher profits.

It was also announced yesterday that Mr D. Blackburn, the management consultant who took over as managing director two years ago, had resigned. However, Mr Wilson emphasises there was no boardroom row.

There is no final dividend, leaving the interim payment of 6 pence to compare with the 1969-70 total of 13 pence. Mr Wilson said last night that the board had been "a little optimistic in its budgeting" and the higher sales which had been expected had just not materialised.

The group had to write off £36,000 against profits on its venture into the metal treatment business, and another £21,000 was written off reserves to account for the disposal of its interest in Excolene Chemical.

With uncanny intuition the market had marked down the shares from 60p to 28p before the results were announced. The shares lost a further 5p on the figures.

Furniture flourishes

Midlands Ideal Homes, the Nottingham furniture chain, is raising its dividend total from 7½ pence to 10 pence with a final payment of 6 pence. Pre-tax profits jumped from £122,000 to £213,000 for the year ended March on sales up 12 per cent at £5.5 millions.

Profits of the Vokes group, the Guildford-based specialised engineering concern, have fallen for the first time for over 10 years, but the group has maintained its total dividend at 39 pence.

Free-tax profit for the year to

March 31 was £1,091,000, compared with £1,323,000 the previous year. The 1970-71 figure includes a full year's result from BDR Machines, whereas the previous year's figure included results for only eight months.

The board, which is headed by Sir Charles Hardie, says that the fall in profits is due to BDR Machines, which continues to experience considerable difficulties on account of a major setback in the vending machine field, and to a reduction of profits in Australia.

Plantation Holdings rights terms

The rights issue by Plantation Holdings is to take the form of an 11 per cent convertible loan stock 1991-6. Terms are 21 stock for every 25 ordinary 10p shares. The conversion rights allow shareholders to exchange £5 of stock for 22 ordinary shares at a price equivalent of 22.7p per share.

Mr S. Livesey, chairman, told yesterday's annual meeting that the group was currently investigating a number of possible acquisitions in the UK, to be financed from the proceeds of the issue. These companies, he said, would dovetail with existing activities.

Rubber crops were 11½ per cent up this current year, Mr Livesey said, and the board was looking for an improvement in rubber prices.

Freezing is good business

M. K. Refrigeration, the liquid coolers manufacturer, has made a good start to its first full year as a public company. Pre-tax profit for the half year to April 30, 1971, was £283,000, compared with £187,000 for the previous comparable period.

The board has announced an interim dividend of 30 pence compared with the forecast of 25 pence made in the offer-

Truman terms before panel?

By LINDSAY VINCENT

With time on its side, Truman Hambury Buxton yesterday decided to defer any decision on the Grand Metropolitan Hotels and Watney Mann takeover offers till "early next week." Truman has given neither party any real indication of their views but at least for the moment, Mr Maxwell Joseph's Grand Metropolitan appears to have the edge.

Both parties continued to bid against each other for Truman stock in the market yesterday with GM getting rather more of the action than Watney.

"Not much" was Watney's reply to the question of how many Truman shares it had acquired but GM is thought to have picked up around 200,000 shares, which lifts its direct holding to around 7 per cent.

The run on Watney's share price levelled off yesterday and at the close of trading its bid was worth around 41½p against GM's 40½p. Truman closed at 40½/41½p.

The steader market in Watney might have been influenced by rumours that Slater, Walker Securities, sensing defeat for Watney, has picked up around three million shares over the past few days in the hope of making a leveraged bid for the shares when the bitter contest is over. The rumours, as ever, drew "no comment" from a Slater spokesman.

Meanwhile, observers were considering whether the takeover panel might intervene in the struggle and demand that Watney Mann make a cash offer to all shareholders. The precedent is last year's battle between Trafalgar House and Bovril for Ceneration, when Trafalgar bought 25 per cent of Ceneration for cash from one seller and thus had enough to defeat Bovril.

It is thought unlikely, however, that the panel will make a similar ruling in this case, as the 25 per cent of Truman which Watney has acquired through the market for cash has not yet put it in a commanding position.

Societies to merge?

The directors of Hastings and Thanet Building Society and the Hastings and East Sussex Building Society have "reached complete agreement" on a proposal to merge the interests of the two societies.

The boards of both societies are confident that the merger will prove beneficial to all their members, agents, and staff.

Sterling bid after raid on Wharf

By STEWART FLEMING

Sterling Guarantee Trust, the rapidly growing property and financial group, yesterday snapped up 31.7 per cent of Wharf Holdings in a few hours. Chairman and managing director Mr Geoffrey Sterling last night confirmed his intention of bidding for the remaining shares.

Last night Sterling Guarantee said that the shares were acquired at prices between 200p and 211p, which would capitalise Wharf Holdings at around £5.6 millions.

Though some shares were bought through the market, two or three large holdings, including the shares held by Camellia Investments, were bought en bloc.

The acquisition of the Camellia stake is particularly significant. Mr D. M. Bacon, its managing director, is also on the Wharf board so his decision will obviously raise Mr Sterling's hopes that he will be able to agree terms with the Wharf board and persuade them to recommend the bid.

The operation bore the hallmarks of what is becoming a typical SGT situation, and was reminiscent of the company's bid for the Holborn store group, Gamage, last September.

As for Gamage, a bid for Wharf Holdings had been widely canvassed for some time. Though Wharf Holdings turned in a trading loss of £127,000 last year (compared with a peak profit of £886,000 in 1965) its properties are the attraction, as with Gamage.

These properties are in the accounts at £6.7 millions but their development potential is substantial. The most attractive land must be the 10½ acres at Butler's Wharf, near Tower Bridge. Thames-side land of this type, which sparked off the scramble for Hay's Wharf shares earlier in the year, involved some of the most acute financial brains in the City, including Slater, Walker Securities and London Merchant Securities.

Though Wharf Holdings' property is farther from the City than Hay's Wharf's, there will be good prospects of obtaining development permission, given the Borough of Southwark's determination to increase its rates income.

Wharf Holdings also owns 2½ acres at Waple and 19 acres near Avonmouth. Sterling's plunge was prompted by the granting of planning permission earlier this week for Wharf Holdings' head office, Beagle House.

In one respect Mr Sterling must be hoping that history will not repeat itself. Soon after he announced his Gamage bid St Martin's Property Corporation entered the battle and SGT was forced to a substantial premium before winning.

Cunard director rejects terms

Mr Donald Forrester, the former Cunard director who holds some 350,000 shares, made it clear yesterday that he will be rejecting the Trafalgar House offer for the company. He also predicted that Sir Basil Smallpiece and the other directors will reject the bid.

"I have an idea they will not have their colours to the mast," he said.

This reply would be based on the asset value, in the balance sheet, at more than 300p and on future prospects.

The latest bid from Trafalgar went out without the support of the Cunard board who unanimously decided to defer judgment on it and advised shareholders to take no action for the time being on any bid documents from Trafalgar.

This offer was pitched at the minimum price currently being talked about as Cunard's break-up value.

Unofficial estimates as to the potential value of the assets range from £2,000,000 to as much as £5,000,000.

It is expected, that if Cunard rejects the offer, it will lay stress on its recovery potential. This year it will show only "some recovery" from last year's near £2 millions loss.

There is talk that the company might be sufficiently confident of its prospects further ahead to indicate that a £2 millions profit is in sight for 1972, and there is even the suggestion that the following year could produce twice as much if the company's luck holds.

BSA to lose 850 jobs

The motor-cycle division of Birmingham Small Arms is to lay off about 850 workers, the company announced last night. A spokesman said that about 400 production workers and 400 staff would be receiving redundancy notices next week.

A £5 millions bid for BSA is currently being made by millionaire Dr Daniel McDonald, but it has been delayed while a firm of accountants completes its report on BSA's troubled motor-cycle division. The report will not be finished until the end of this month, and the redundancies announced last night at BSA's Small Heath, Meriden and Hockley Heath works, may well not be the last.

Woolworth ginger plan rejected

Woolworth's other chairman, Mr Walter Shaw, the Cheshire industrialist who heads the company's "ginger group" of dissident shareholders, yesterday launched another attack on the Woolworth management after Thursday's poor figures.

He said he will be writing to Woolworth of America, which owns 53 per cent of the UK company, to discuss certain proposals he has for improving the company's fortunes.

The disastrous results, Mr Shaw said, serve to confirm the ginger group's criticisms. A spokesman for Woolworth later said that its American parent was quite happy with the British management and fully supported it. It was not interested in Mr Shaw's proposals.

Property bonds

Offer	Prop	Rate	Offer
City of York	110.0	117.0	
City of West. Scotland	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	
City of York	100.0	105.0	

Spending up a fraction

Consumer spending rose a hairbreadth above its 1970 peak in the June quarter, according to the first preliminary estimate of the Central Statistical Office. The rise of £18 millions to £5,920 millions (1963 prices, seasonally adjusted) is well inside the normal margin of error of these estimates.

The suggestion here of recovery is to a large extent deceptive, since the June quarter contained deferred buying from mail order houses and of Ford vehicles. The first six months of the year shows a 1 per cent drop in consumption from the second half of 1970—fairly well in line with other national accounts estimates (some show a bigger drop) and with the official forecast in March.

The pound

Closing	Market	Closing	Previous
N. York	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Amster.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Frankf.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Paris	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Brussels	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Geneva	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Basle	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Stockh.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Copen.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Oslo	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Stockh.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Copen.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Oslo	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Stockh.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Copen.	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4
Oslo	2.41 1/2-2.42	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4	2.41 1/2-2.41 3/4

General Motors' Japan deal on

General Motors Corporation of the United States is buying a 34.2 per cent interest in Isuzu Motors of Japan for £26,455,000. The agreement ends negotiations among the two companies and the Japanese Government that began last November. It contains a clause promising that GM will not attempt to take over Isuzu.

The deal will be submitted to the Japanese Government's foreign investment council for final authorisation, which is expected in mid-August.

Tentative agreement has been reached to form a joint venture in Japan between GM, Isuzu, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, and C. Itoh and Co.

The consortium would manufacture automatic transmissions, heavy trucks, construction machinery, and tandem axles.

TOM TICKELL

Towards easier credit buys

THE Crowther report on consumer credit is obviously going to bring major changes in the whole credit market, worth over £13 billion at the end of 1969. This week a conference in London sponsored by the "Financial Times" considered the his credit group's reactions to the report's suggestions. Almost everyone from the finance houses to the check traders agreed that cutting back the complex jungle of regulations and types of credit as the Crowther Committee recommends would make life much easier for both the consumer and the credit company. By codifying the law into two statutes—one to cope with every type of loan and the other to deal with consumer credit by itself—the new proposals would make it easier for Britain's consumer credit to expand.

At present it accounts for only 4 per cent of disposable income whereas in the United States the level is round 10 per cent. Clearly recommendations that the consumer should always know the real rate of interest and that the Government's restrictions on term payments should be abolished would alter—and improve—the trade considerably.

The worry was not the recommendations themselves but the feeling that they might be dealt with piecemeal. Mr Malcolm Wilcox, chairman of the Finance Houses Association, told the conference that the two or three years which most people thought would elapse before the Bill reached Parliament was far too long to wait. As most of the changes that would come were technical the problem should not be getting parliamentary time, but ensuring that the draftsman were there to get the Bill into the right form. As it was generally uncontroversial, it should not need a long debate.

Of course there were some disagreements with the report's suggestions. Several people thought the plans to license all shopkeepers giving purchase money loans with the central credit commissioner was too complex and would probably lead to evasion. Mr Donald Curry, managing director of the television sales group, also disliked the idea of making firms include servicing and maintenance charges in the real rate of interest they would have to display.

He argued that for people buying outright these charges would appear when the set broke down and that therefore in comparing like with like they should not be included in interest rates. In some cases, according to Mr Curry, a television that was maintained would appear twice as expensive as one bought with a bank loan, although in fact the long-term costs would be exactly the same.

Probably changes in the law will accelerate the process of making credit respectable. There is still some survival of the old puritan ethic which lays down that buying on the never-never is rather disreputable, though it is more common among the older generation than among the young. But they have always been happier about instalment buying than their parents in each generation. The class-consciousness that makes certain types of borrowing acceptable, and others not, is gradually disappearing. Bank borrowing was always socially all right, probably because the middle classes have always had bank accounts, although hire purchase was very definitely not on when it

really became a big market in the twenties. After all, the people using it had not got accounts, even though they could buy the first consumer durables—like cars and radios—that were appearing.

Now the picture has changed, and in a recent survey, Curry found that the men earning £3,000 a year or more used credit twice as much as usual. This may reflect their awareness of the way that inflation can eat away at the value of high interest rates, and their confidence that they should be able to find a job.

With the new market in colour televisions, it seems that most of the people who have rented, rather than bought their sets are from this group. Clearly this does not reflect any inability to pay for the set outright, and it is probably caused by exactly the reverse. They can afford to have servicing and maintenance done quickly and renting a set is the way to ensure it.

The clerical and skilled manual workers are the bulk of the consumer market and historically they are the

industry's bread and butter. They are likely to go for electrical goods, carpets and the more practical form of consumer durables, as well as cars—which many senior men may get at the company's expense.

But the two lowest social groups—the unskilled manual workers and the pensioners or others living on small fixed incomes—do not use hire purchase, because often they can not afford the down payment and if anything they will depend on check trading.

With shops selling £1,000 millions of their £13,500 millions of goods on credit, clearly it is an expanding market, particularly as the proportion of higher price goods on credit is increasing all the time, even after allowing for the falling value of money. All the indications are that it is going to get bigger still. In spite of the increase in crime most of the groups in the field say that less than 1 per cent of the borrowers are likely to default on their payments—and many of them do it by accident.

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BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

KEEP DOWN most Englishmen at heart, not shopkeepers or gentlemen farmers. Striding judiciously through the dawn dew, loyal labourer at one heel and tenant farmer at the other, tending their fields, what is it that they want?

With this sort of subliminal one to prey upon it is a little surprising that only one UK insurance company, Property with Assurance, has taken up the idea of launching a fund investing in agricultural land. Property Growth itself, which issued the first of its agricultural funds in the middle of last year, has opted for the "rental" fund.

Simply let it be known that individuals with at least £10,000 could buy into the fund, waited for the money to be in. Property Growth's marketing philosophy has been to promote the fund until it has a record.

Will he come some time yet that day arrives. So far more than £100,000 has been raised and the fund has yet to buy its first agricultural property. It is at present negotiating a purchase.

The Property Growth fund has been taken as symptomatic of growing investment interest in agricultural land, however, not only on the part of professional classes who are anxious to save for their retirement.

During the week the Pension Fund Unit Trust reported its fifth annual report. Pension Fund Property Trust is an investment of £52 million, in which the leading pension funds are holdings.

It is not open to the small investor because pension funds receive favourable treatment and the advantage would be lost if it were not accepting money from other than pension funds.

The report reveals, however, in the past two years £24 millions has been invested in agricultural land. Biggs is quite confident that institutional investors begin to see the attractions of investing in agricultural land compared with investing in property such as shops and offices.

The wicked absentee landlord of British and Irish culture. So, from another point of view, is the lazy

The point is that when you are investing in a farm it is more than likely that you are in fact helping the farm manager, and for the investor it is his judgment of the man which is the key.

These days, however, good farms are few and far between, and well trained farm managers looking for a chance to be their own boss are not in such short supply.

Against the difficulties of land investment the attractions are numerous. Land values for farms of over 300 acres have been rising by about 10 per cent per year during the past 20 years.

In spite of the relatively low return, on assets employed, earned in the farming community in general the rental return on good agricultural land is also attractive. Between 4 and 4½ per cent is reckoned to be the average, with the extra attraction that rent reviews come round every three years.

Another point is that the farming community, although reckoned to be efficient, is short of capital, and so the investor will frequently have the whip hand in negotiations—especially if it is a major institution. Worries about poor tenants can be eased if it sticks to larger farms of, say, 1,000 acre-plus where the farmer's own working capital tied up in the business may be as much as £50,000.

There can be no doubt, however, that agricultural land investment needs to be made with care. Mr Biggs pointed out that though British land values are below the average level in the Common Market countries, the promise of entry into the EEC has made him wary of investing in dairy farms. On the other hand, cereal farms are, for the same reason, more attractive.

The Pension Fund Property Unit Trust also prefers its farm investments to have what he calls "a long-term hope value." If there is the chance that in 10, 20 or 50 years the farm will be attractive to land developers then the investment is that much more attractive.

Every year around 30,000 acres are sold to developers at prices well above the ruling rate for agricultural land.

No doubt others will follow Property Growth's lead and design schemes for smaller investors. It is to be hoped that, like property growth, they impose a relatively high minimum investment for an agricultural land fund must be classed as a "relatively high risk investment," especially when it is small.

No trading until IOS answers

management of IOS must answer 11 questions to the satisfaction of the Ontario Securities Commission before trading in IOS stock is allowed to resume.

hearing on Thursday to a answers was adjourned July 28 and the trading in IOS stock was continued.

chairman Mr E. A. Royce that an interlocutory decision was obtained on Wednesday in the Supreme Court of Ontario by an IOS director group barring the IOS msn, Mr Robert Vesco, and officers from dealing in the IOS except for normal transactions.

adequate information is not in the hands of Mr Vesco or his associates to make a case which they for trading to resume," the chairman said in adjourned hearing.

oe questions posed by the mission may be difficult for to answer. However, the that counsel appeared for Vesco at Thursday's hearing stated that an attempt would be made to answer.

ne Ontario commission is to know the nature of information which Mr Vesco reportedly unwilling, or to supply to the United Securities and Exchange Commission and the relation if any, of this matter to the IOS.

a commission wants information "as to reports that two and his associates are actively soliciting the purchase of shares of IOS in jurisdictions."

C asks for information the present control of IOS how control would have affected if a block of IOS was purchased from the IOS option plan had not been at the annual meeting and control would have been if certain dissident les that were rejected by agreement had been included in official tally.

ne OSC is also insisting that documents be filed

before the trading ban is ended. These include copies of pleadings before the Supreme Court of Ontario for the injunction restraining IOS management from voting the IOS stock option shares, related material, and a copy of the statement filed in the Supreme Court of Ontario by IOS seeking a declaration that the IOS annual meeting was a nullity. Both were filed by dissident leader Mr Morton Schlowitz.

The OSC also wants to know what provisions, if any, have been made for the day-to-day operations of the affairs of IOS if the dissidents are successful in a contempt motion against IOS management.

The OSC asked for information on the background which enables, or enables, International Controls Corporation to receive payment for warrants from IOS, information on the events of the default alleged by IOS and information on the effect of the warrants transaction on the working capital of IOS.

One question requests information on whether there were any material transactions between IOS and International Controls Corporation since the date of the IOS annual meeting for these changes "to the extent that this is within the knowledge of management of IOS."

On another point the commission request reasons why Arthur Anderson and Co. declined to continue as auditors of IOS.—AP-Dow Jones.

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With this behind us we can purchase, on favourable terms, large individual properties costing millions of pounds each. (As illustrated by Arundel Towers, Southampton, shown below, which is valued at over £2,500,000.)

Most other funds just cannot afford such large transactions.

Obviously, investment on such a scale brings rewards on the same scale, both in growth and security.

In the last 12 months alone, Abbey Property Bonds rose in value by 10.5% (including the reinvested rental income net of tax). To achieve the same result a standard rate taxpayer would have required a gross income of 14.8% on his money.

In the same 12 months, investors continued to place an average of £2 million with us each month.

Which should enable us to move on to even bigger and better things.

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The Abbey Property Bond Fund is the biggest and most successful in Britain. We have 26,000 policy holders with an investment of over £55 million.

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As long as you hold Abbey Property Bonds, which are single premium life assurance policies, your life is assured automatically, at no extra cost.

In the event of your death the amount payable to your family will be either the current value of your Bonds, or the amount shown on the life cover table on the application form—whichever is the greater.

Naturally, if you've withdrawn money from the Fund, the amount of life cover will be correspondingly less.

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Provided you make a single investment of not less than £1,000 you may, if you wish, withdraw up to 6% of the value of your Bond each year—entirely free from Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

Provided total annual appreciation is not less than 6%, your Bond would retain its

original value (calculated at the offered price of the Units).

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With Abbey Property Bonds you have no personal liability to Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax either while you hold them or when you cash them. The Company is liable to income tax on the rental income, at the special Life Assurance Company rate—currently 37.5%.

The Company also has the right to make deductions to cover its own Capital Gains Tax liabilities, but this is not adjusted for in the Unit price. In present circumstances, it intends to limit this deduction to two-thirds the normal rate.

Surtax

Surtax payers are liable to surtax (or higher rate tax after 1973) when they cash in or on death, depending on their surtax situation at the time of cashing in. There are a number of provisions which enable a surtax payer to reduce, and possibly eliminate, the liability and very high surtax payers should contact Abbey Life for precise details.

Investment Policy

The Abbey Property Bond Fund is managed by the Property Division of Hambros Bank. It's invested in top industrial and commercial properties with really sound tenants. To name but a few—National Westminster Bank, Esso Chemicals, The Post Office, W. H. Smith, American Express, IPC and Boots.

Because the value of some types of properties were lower during 1970, some particularly attractive purchases with very good long-term growth prospects were made.

The Fund also buys sites and constructs its own buildings in conjunction with approved developers. Naturally, this is only undertaken with letting of the completed properties guaranteed in advance.

Up to 25% of the Fund can be applied in this way.

Regular Valuations

Once a month a valuation of the Fund's properties is carried out by the Fund Managers. These valuations are then confirmed by Richard Ellis and Son, Chartered Surveyors. Unit prices are published daily in leading national newspapers.

Low Charges

To pay for life cover and management expenses, Abbey Life charges 5%—which is included in the offer price. Plus a small rounding-off price adjustment.

After that charges total only three-eighths per cent a year.

All expenses of managing, maintaining, and valuing the properties as well as the cost of buying and selling the Fund's investments, are met by the Fund itself.

Cashing in Your Bonds

You can normally cash in your Bonds at any time and receive the full bid value of the Units, subject only to any adjustment for Capital Gains Tax, as described earlier.

In exceptional circumstances the Company retains the right to defer payment for up to six months pending realisation of properties.

However, the Company maintains adequate liquid resources, similar to that of building societies, so in normal circumstances there should be no delay in cashing in.

Disclosure of Information

As a Bondholder, you'll receive our Annual Report with full details of the entire Portfolio.

This includes photographs of the properties. And full financial information to let you see exactly how your money is invested.

As a new Bondholder you'll receive a current Annual Report with your Bonds.

How to Invest

Fill in and post off the completed application form, together with your cheque.

As soon as it's accepted, you receive your Bonds which show the number of Units you've been allocated in the Abbey Property Bond Fund.



Abbey Property Bonds

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Full First Names

Address

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Date of Birth

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If not, please give details

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★ Send in your application and cheque now to get the benefit of Units allocated at the current offered price of £1.17. Offer closes on Tuesday August 3 which is valuation day.

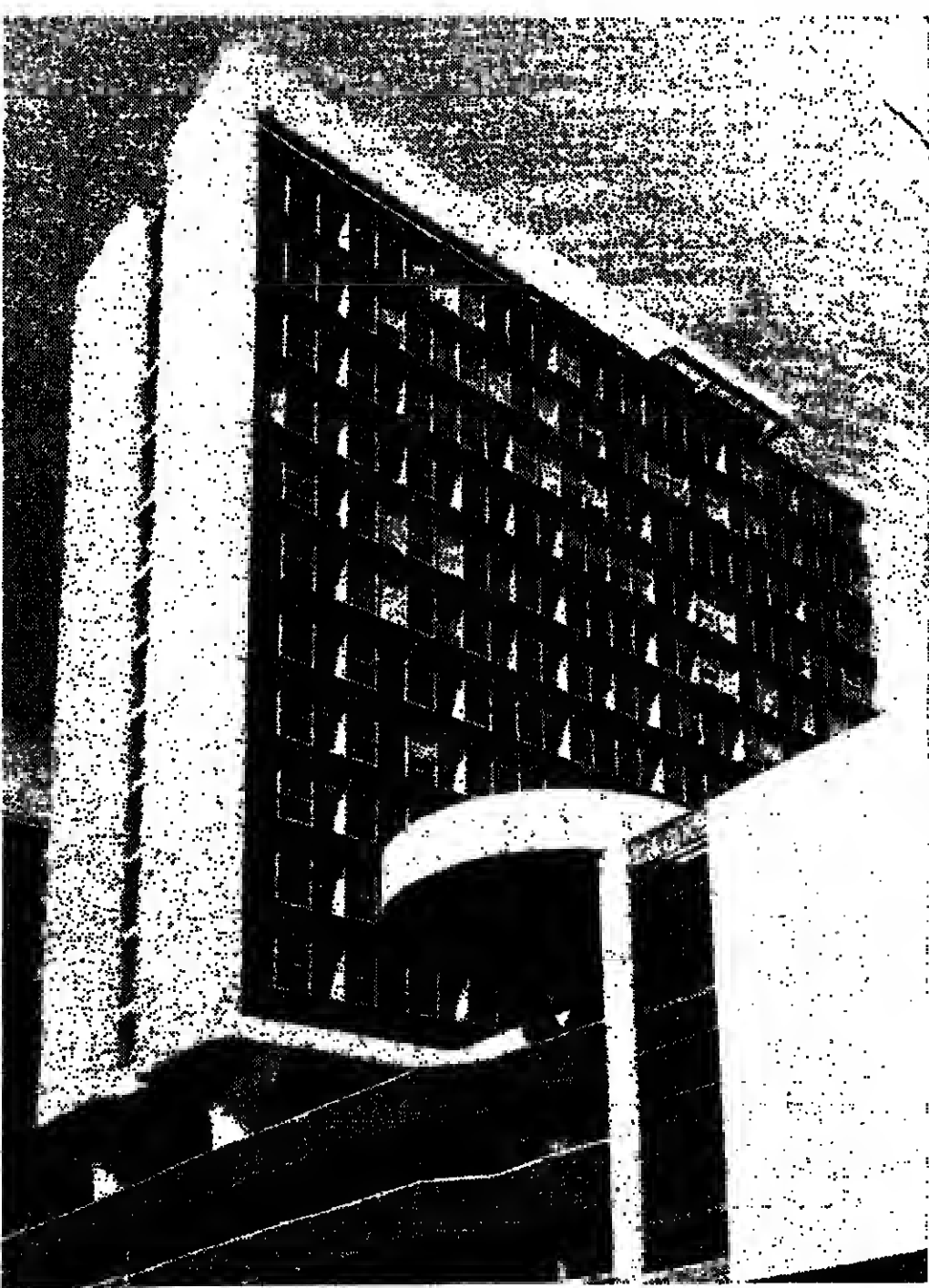
Signature

Date

PB G SAT 1 0

Age when buying Abbey Property Bonds	Life Cover per £100 invested
Under 30	£220
30-34	£220
35-39	£190
40-44	£160
45-49	£135
50-54	£120
55-59	£110
60-64	£105
65-69	£100

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.....TG-1

By MARK ARNOLD-FORSTER

1 That the Parliamentary Labour Party has now succeeded in postponing the parliamentary vote on British entry from July until the autumn. The Government's first instinct has been to rush the decision through the Commons before the arguments, the reference back (of the conference arrangements committee's report) is asked to be considered, the committee will be asked to confer with the movers of pro- and anti-European resolutions in an attempt to select either one of each or a resolution and an amendment.

resolution welcomes the terms achieved in pursuance of the Labour Government's application to join the Common Market.

Manshoff's plea to Labour, page 3; Focus on Europe, page 5; Letters, page 10.

While the total population of the USSR had increased by 15.8 per cent the Jewish population had increased by 5.2 per cent to 2,515,000.

The analysis of the census singles out assimilation, the process of the loss of identity from enumerators, and natural decrease, as possible causes of decline.

The institute's report compiled by Mr Ivor Millman, while there had been a slow growth in the population of sophisticated European nations between 1959 and 1970, Asian and Caucasian population had grown at almost phenomenal rates, and the Jewish community urbanised, mainly European group like Soviet Jewry could be found in a state of physical decline.

place during a new wave of anti-Zionist propaganda, but the census also reflected the reassertion of national identity.

Fewer Jews than a Jewish language as their mother tongue, 17.5 per cent compared with 21.7 per cent in the previous census. "On this aspect, Jews remain the most assimilated large nationality in the USSR."

Claims on the Kremlin page 1.

atmosphere. It is the result of a lengthy and consistent effort by the President, who began to "break the ice" between the White House and the Chinese Communist Party when, at that moment, he has been taking steps to rethink American policy towards China and to improve the existing tenuous

Yet it is acutely ironical that Mr. Yeh, who founded his political life on the theme of his hostility to communism and most particularly Chinese communism—should have manoeuvred himself into position to reap so handsome a political

because of President Nixon's proposed visit to China. He took place in informal talks with the President in Peking, the Under-Secretary of State.

●Text of Nixon's broadcast and world reaction, page 1.

●Leader comment, page 1.

John Gittings, page 11.

s to reap so handsome a political

interrogation, and warn that the suspect was under no obligation to say anything more unless he

and foreign embassies we obtaining confidential Government information. More arrests are expected to be made during the next few weeks. A case expected to go for trial late this year, probably in October or November.

This view of Britain and Europe from 900 miles in space showing the cloud cover (white) was received yesterday by Ambassador College Satellite Station. It shows the cold front which brought a rain stream to Britain yesterday, sweeping south-eastward across Europe. Stations as high as 30,000 feet in the Alps should enjoy sunny weather. An extensive station as high as 30,000 feet in the Alps should maintain dry sunny conditions over the weekend.

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